Connecticut

Crime—1921.

TWO GET PARDONS FROM PRISON BOARD

Pasquale Caruso and Leroy Buffet to Be Released

Hartford Daily Courant 2/13/21

Pasquale Caruso, 29 years old, of Colchester, and Leroy Buffett, colored, 34 years old, of Saybrook, both serving indeterminate sentences at the state prison at Wethersfield on charges of assault to kill and murder, were pardoned yesterday.

Sixty-eight applications were contained on the list for the consideration of the board of pardons, but many were withdrawn and mayn were eliminated owing to the absence of counsel to represent those who had been before the board prevously.

No pardon was issued to any prisoner who had been sentenced from Hartford County. Raymond J. Porter, former clerk at the Hartford-Connecticut Trust Co., now serving a sentence of not less than three nor more than six years for the embezzlement of about $155,000 from the bank's funds, withdrew his appeal.

Luman C. Beckett, who pleaded guilty in the superior court for Hartford County in March of this year to murder in the second degree, in having caused the death of Charles E. Taft, Hartford "night hawk" taxi driver, appeared in person before the board.

Buffett's Case Pathetic.

Caruso's case concerned New London County. Buffett was sentenced from New Haven County. The latter's case was pathetic. He was represented by Mr. Chisholm, a field secretary for Tuskeege Institute, whose home is at present in Old Saybrook. He said he had known Buffett for sixteen years. Five years ago he and his wife were living in Old Saybrook. Domestic trouble developed. The wif left home, taking with her the eldest daughter, a girl of 4, and became a servant in a private house in East River.

The other daughter, who was 2 years old, was left with the father. Buffett began to brood over his wife's desertion, and went to East River several times to remonstrate with his wife over her neglect.

One day in the summer of 1918 Buffett went to East River, driving over in a wagon of a friend, and carrying with him a rifle which he had borrowed. He told his friend to wait, stole up to the kitchen of the house and shot at her through the window. She was struck in the back, and for some weeks hovred between life and death. She recovred, however, obtained a divorce from Buffett, married again and died in childbirth. The children were left with Buffett's grandparents in Old Saybrook, where they all now live in poverty. Mr. Chisholm said that if Buffett were released, he would see that he would be allowed to take a course at Tuskegee, in order that he might engage in settlement work in the South among people of his own race. He was sentenced September 27, 1918, from ten to twenty years at Wethersfield. He had petitioned before.

Pasquale Caruso was represented by a lawyer, who had also appeared before the board in his behalf at the June meeting. Caruso was a teamster in Colchester when charged with assault to kill and murder. His counsel said that Caruso was out walking on the day he committed the assault and that it was caused by the action of three men who had insulted him. A quarrel arose, in which he was pushed about and struck. Caruso drew a pocket knife and defended himself. One of the trio was cut in the abdomen, but later recovered. Caruso, frightened, fled, was arrested, and sentenced to Wethersfield January 14, 1915, to from 20 to 22 years. His counsel said that a home was awaiting Caruso in Pueblo, Colo., if granted a pardon.

Colorado

Crime—1921.

NEGRO POLICEMAN JAILED FOR THREATS PENDING INQUIRY

DENVER COL POST OCTOBER 23, 1921

As the result of threats the police say he made against Ira Culp, J. W. Williams, Negro special police officer, was arrested Saturday by Detectives Lane and Jones. Williams was deprived of his policeman's badge and is being held in the city jail pending an investigation.

Culp several weeks ago brought charges against Clara Page, Negress, known as the "Indian Princess," alleging she robbed him of $25. Ever since these charges were filed, Culp says, Williams has threatened to "throw him in jail unless he left Denver." Culp, Friday, reported the alleged threats to the police and the arrest of Williams followed.

Saturday morning charges of subborning a witness were filed against Williams by Deputy District Attorney Ben L. Pollock. Culp told Pollock that Williams had, upon six occasions, offered him a railroad ticket and $25 if he would drop the charges against the Page woman and leave the city.

Arkansas.

Crime—1921.

LITTLE ROCK ARK DEMOCRAT MARCH 16, 1921

TO BREAK UP LOCAL "GUN TOTING" HABIT

Two Negroes Draw Fines of $100 Each for Carrying Revolvers.

Judge Hale Wednesday morning signified his intention of breaking up the "gun toting" habit among both negroes and whites when he fined two negroes $100 each, after revolvers had been found in their possession when they were arrested.

George Tillman, negro, arrested about 9 o'clock Tuesday night at Third and Johnson streets by Detective Cabiness, was carrying a 38-caliber automatic. He could give no excuse for having the weapon in his possession and was the first to be fined $100.

Fred Richardson and Claud Bassett, negroes, were arrested Tuesday night in the railroad yards at Baring Cross by Special Agent Evans of the Missouri Pacific. Richardson was carrying an "owl head," and gave as his reason for so doing that he had never been in that part of town and was afraid of being held up. He was promptly fined $100. Bassett could give little evidence that he had steady employment and was fined $10 by Judge Hale on the charge of vagrancy.

Will Taylor and E. Cook, negroes, also picked up Tuesday night in the Missouri Pacific yards by railroad special agents, were in court Wednesday morning on charges of vagrancy. Cook was fined $10 and Taylor was fined $25 and costs.

ARRIVES AT WALLS WITH 12 CONVICTS

LITTLE ROCK ARK. GAZETTE JULY 22, 1921

Sheriff Pierce of Little River County Brings in Three White Men, Nine Negroes.

Sheriff J. R. Pierce of Little River county arrived at the penitentiary yesterday morning with three white and nine negro prisoners, their sentences ranging from six months to five years. Two of the white prisoners, convicted on a charge of grand larceny, were sentenced to serve one year each while several negroes convicted of grand larceny and burglary received three and four years.

W. R. Lattie, one of the white prisoners, who was convicted on a charge of escape and rescue, received six months. It was charged that Lattie, after escaping from the jail in Little River county, returned with saws which he gave to other prisoners.

The other white men, Ed Brown and Lee Smith, were senteneed to serve one year each on charges of grand larceny.

The negroes, their crimes and sentences, follow: Dave Bailey, murder, five years; Will Davis, burglary and grand larceny, four years; Will Phillips, burglary and grand larceny, three years; Arthur Parker, burglary and grand larceny, four years; Joe Young, burglary and grand larceny, three years; Lee Goodlow, selling whiskey, one year; Bud Nolen, manslaughter and selling whiskey, five years; Charles Marshall, burglary and grand larceny, three years; John Moore, false pretense, one year.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime — 1121.

WHIPPING POST LAW REVIVED IN DELAWARE TOWN

4/28/21

Montgomery Advertiser

WILMINGTON, DEL., March 26.—At Newcastle county workhouse today four negroes felt the sting of the Delewnre whipping post law. Those whipped were Warner Lewis, convicted of larceny and sentenced to one year in prison, and twenty lashes; Leonard Barret, highway robbery, ten years and forty lashes, and Josn Richardson, and Horace Archie, highwny robbery, ten years and forty lashes each.

This total of 140 lashes was the largest imposed at the whipping post in this county for many years as the tendency of recently enacted laws has been to allow more discretion in the courts in respect of imposing corporal punishment. The sentences of three of the culprits to 40 lashes each for highway robbery was in accord with a law enacted by the present legislature in punishment of this offense.

140 LASHES LAID ON FOUR CONVICTS' BACKS

Cat o' Nine Tails Applied Lightly to Negroes by Delaware Warden.

N Y C WORLD
MARCH 27. 1921

WILMINGTON, Del., March 26.—At the New Castle County Workhouse to-day four negroes felt the sting of the Delaware Whipping Post Law. Those whipped were: Warner Lewis, convicted of larceny and sentenced to one year in prison and twenty lashes; Leonard Barrett, highway robbery, ten years and forty lashes, and John Richardson and Horace Archie, highway robbery, ten years and forty lashes each.

This total of 140 lashes was the largest imposed at the whipping post in this county for many years. The sentence of three of the culprits to forty lashes each for highway robbery was in accord with a law enacted by the present Legislature in punishment of this offence.

The whippings were administered by Warden Plummer and the lashes were but lightly applied, as a vigorous application of the nine-thonged "cat" would cut a man's back into ribbons in a dozen or more blows. The victims' backs were only slightly marked, and only by occasional flinching did they give evidence of suffering.

The whippings were public and were witnessed by about a hundred persons.

NEGROES WINCE UNDER LASHING

WILMINGTON DEL JOURNAL
MARCH 28, 1921

Three of Four Culprits Get at Post Today All Law Allows

WARDEN SAYS IT'S BAD JOB

Four Negroes were publicly whipped in the New Castle County Workhouse yard on Saturday in the presence of a crowd of 125 persons, one of the largest crowds that ever witnessed chastisement for crime in Delaware. Three of the men got 40 lashes each, the maximum penalty.

Warden M. S. Plummer, of the workhouse, administered the punishment. He used the regulation "cat" and three of the men flinched under the blows. The fourth man "took his medicine with a smile.

Unusual interest had been aroused in today's lashings because of the discussion throughout the country pro and con of the whipping post as a crime deterrent. William A. Pinkerton, the nationally-known detective, recently declared whippings one of the best crime preventives, not because of the physical pain inflicted, but because of the stigma it cat upon criminals whipped among their own class.

It was 1 o'clock when Warden Plumber doffed his coat and ordered the first prisoner brought to the post. The whippings took place in the jail-yard, where a stout 12-inch post has been erected, with shackles.

Warden Plumber was visably affected by the job. The crowd of witnesses were silent, but watchful.

Warner Lewis, colored, was led to the post, stripped to the waistline Deputy Warden E. J. Leach read the court's sentence of one year imprisonment and 20 lashes for larceny.

Lewis was shackled to the post and Warden Plummer laid on the whip. At the end of the twentieth blow Lewis looked around, smiled, and asked, "Is that all?" He was unshackled, put on his coat and was led back to his cell.

Next Leonard Barrett was tied to the post. He had been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment and 40 lashes for highway robbery. Barrett flinched as the blows were laid on. John Richardson, a light-complexioned Negro, followed Barrett at the post. He stood the first eleven lashes without exhibiting apparent emotion. But at the twelfth blow, he flinched. From thence on to the fortieth lash, Richardson squirmed and stamped about as the whip struck his flesh. His back was plainly marked by the "cat," but no blood was brought.

Horace Archy, also sentenced to 40 lashes and 20 years' imprisonment for highway robbery, was shaking as he was led to the post. He trembled while Deputy Warden Leach read the court's sentence and as he was triced up to receive his flogging.

Archie flinched throughout the entire ordeal, but was able, like the others, to walk to his cell unaided, after the fortieth blow.

"This is the one disagreeable feature of my job," remarked Warden Plummer when the whippings were ended. "But I intend to do my duty and won't ask any of my deputies to do what I do not like to do. It's disagreeable, but has to be done."

The crowd of spectators was orderly throughout the proceedings, and quietly scattered at the close.

Delaware

AUGUSTA ME JOURNAL
APRIL 7, 1921

PENOLOGY IN DELAWARE

Out in Delaware where they have the whipping post they also have jails affording all the latest improvements the most modern penology would seem to require. In short, were there a Nobel prize for anthropological somatology, Delaware would be a formidable competitor. What is termed the "jail de luxe" is located at Newcastle of that state and there are confined four men once prominent in financial and church circles in Wilmington, one because he embezzled $68,000, another for taking $200,000 that didn't belong to him, another for stealing $215,000, also a recorder of deeds who sequestered for personal uses county funds.

These four jugglers of "meum" and "tuum" are evincing a strong interest in "the recreative" influences of the workhouse and lend their personal prestige to the social features. These include two baseball teams, a jazz orchestra, a theatre and an occasional public whipping of negroes or tramps. Four negroes were given forty lashes each recently and the occasion was public, attended by the recreaters, also the warden wearing "a new green suit with white piping on the vest, patent leather shoes with gray suede tops and a fancy four-in-hand tie." When criticized for retaining the whipping post Delaware replied that it served to keep a class of crinimals out of the state.

We wonder if the ameliorating influences of white piping on the warden's vest and patent leather shoes with gray suede tops set to the music of a jazz orchestra are designed to keep in high-placed embezzlers. If so perhaps the critics are answered—unless they happen to be the taxpayers.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
REEL 17

Crime – 1921.

District of Columbia

LIEUT.-COL. SHELLEY SHOOTS A NEGRO

Altercation at Horse Show in Virginia Ends in Washington Encounter.

NEW YORK HERALD
MAY 17, 1921

Special despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., May 16.

Lieut. Col. James E. Shelley, U. S. A., shot and seriously wounded Richard Christmas, a negro groom, during an encounter to-day at the Army Quartermaster stables in Washington. Christmas to-night is at Emergency Hospital.

Col. Shelley and the negro got into an argument at the National Capital Horse Show on Saturday when the officer protested at the way the negro was riding one of the army mounts. He called the negro and asked him if he had permission to ride the horse. The negro was surly and an argument followed, during which it is said the negro told Col. Shelley to wait until he got into the District of Columbia (across the Potomas) and see what happened to him. The horse show is being held in Virginia where laws relating to negroes are different from those in the District of Columbia.

Col. Shelley, who is attached to the Army Remount Service, carried a pistol with him when he went to the stables to-day. When he got out of his automobile he met the negro. Stories as to what happened are conflicting, but the result is that the negro seized Col. Shelley's riding crop and hit the officer across the face with it.

Col. Shelley grabbed his pistol and fired, the bullet entering the negro's abdomen. He afterward went to his office, but surrendered voluntarily to the police. In view of the fact that the stables are considered to be an army reservation Col. Shelley was allowed to go under custody of the army organization.

Col. Shelley is the son of the late Representative Shelley of Alabama, who was a Confederate General in the civil war.

SOUTHERNER SHOOTS GROOM

Son Of Rebel General Was About To Be Licked For Insolence

Afro-American 5/28/21

Washington, D. C., May 19.—Efforts of James E. Shelly, white, a lieutenant colonel in the army, to show off at the Capital Horse Show by rushing up to Richard Christmas a groom and striking him with his whip, nearly got him a good beating this week.

Shelley, who is the son of a rebel general, saved himself by shooting the colored man in the stomach, and is now under arrest. He declared that he did not like the way Christmas was riding the horse.

As soon as Christmas got Shelly alone, he asked him what he meant by striking him while he was not looking. Angered by the manliness of the groom, Shelley struck him again, whereupon Christmas took the whip away from the cracker as if he were a baby, and was on the point of administering him the drubing he deserved, when he was shot.

COLONEL SHELLY GROWS WRATHY WHEN QUESTIONED

Burmingham Reporter 5/28/21

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Washington, May 19.—"What the hell do you think I shot him for?" was the angry retort of Lieutenant Colonel James E. Shelley when he was asked by an onlooker of the tragedy why he shot Richard Christmas, a Negro hostler, last Monday morning.

The shooting came as a sequel to an altercation which had occurred between the two men the day before at the government stables where the soldier had attempted to mistreat the Colored man. The hostler approaching the white man sought to ascertain from him the cause of the first attack. The insistence of the Colored man angered the Colonel and he struck him with the butt end of his riding whip, whereupon the hostler grappled with him and was, apparently, getting the better of the fistic argument when the soldier drew an automatic revolver from his hip pocket and shot his opponent in the abdomen.

Bystanders, white and black, were unanimous in declaring the shooting as a most cowardly act. They also asserted that the striking of the hostler with the butt end of the whip was unprovoked and utterly unwarranted. It was the query of one of these bystanders that provoked the "What the hell do you think I shot him for?" from the irate Lieutenant Colonel.

Christmas has slight chance of recovery. He has given out a statement of the affair which tallies with the versions of the people who saw bot hencounters in which he and the soldier were the principals. "The Colonel's statement that I was cutting capers on a horse I was exercising are not true. The animal was a bit fractious and in my efforts to control her we came somewhat near to where the Colonel was standing. He ripped out an oath and struck me. I naturally resented this. On Monday I approached him merely to say that I meant no offense when I sought to protect myself from his attack on Saturday. He cursed me and struck me with his whip. During the fight which followed he pulled a gun and shot me. I think I had a right to protect myself no matter if he is a Colonel."

Colonel Shelley's friends have rallied to his support and do not expect that he will be punished for his part in the encounter.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Florida

Crime – 1921.

ATLANTA GA EVE JOURNAL
JUNE 6, 1921

Negro Counterfeiter, ~~Long Sought~~ by U. S. Secret Service, Caught

A clever negro counterfeiter who has given government operatives worlds of trouble for more than three years has been caught by secret service agents in Ocala, Fla., according to information received at Atlanta headquarters of the service Monday.

He is Roy S. Dorsey, of Ocala, who possesses, according to government sleuths, uncanny ability for transforming $1 bills into ten spots, and who, they charge, has flooded the southern states with bogus bills for a long period.

Secret Service Agent H. B. Arnold, of the Atlanta office, nabbed the negro on a train a few miles out of Ocala last Friday, he reported, while the negro was paying his fare with a fake $10 bill.

Mr. Arnold arrested him and forced him to show him to his Ocala home. There the agent reported he uncovered a compleet counterfeiting outfit. The negro admitted his guilt, the agent said, and was lodged in jail in Ocala to await trial in United States court on various counterfeiting charges—some dating as far back as 1915

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 17

Crime – 1921.

Foreign.

CRIME IN ENGLAND.

In the lately issued report of the Commissioners of Prisons and the Directors of Convict Prisons for the year that ended on March 31 are some facts and conclusions in regard to the diminution of crime in England. It is true that the number of prisoners is greater by 10,000 than in the preceding year. Sentences to imprisonment increased from 34,000 to 42,000 and the number of persons imprisoned as debtors or on civil process rose from 2,800 to 5,200. Male prisoners increased by 8 per cent., while females fell off by 22 per cent. Considering that the year was one of wide unemployment and industrial unrest, the figures are not only satisfactory but remarkable. Instead of comparing the number of crimes and offenders for 1920-21 with those of 1919-20, compare the offenses of the former year with those of the year before the war:

Offenses.	1913-14.	1920-21.
Indictable—		
Murder, manslaughter, wounding, &c.	474	389
Burglary, housebreaking, &c.	1,960	1,548
Larceny, embezzlement, receiving and false pretenses	19,126	12,995
Non-indictable—		
Assaults	8,666	3,312
Drunkenness, &c.....	51,851	8,752
Police regulations, offenses against	8,661	1,948
Poor law, offenses against	4,275	1,122
Prostitution	7,952	2,958
Begging and sleeping out	15,019	2,539

This decrease is extraordinary. The Commissioners attribute it to various causes—better education, better working conditions, higher wages, larger savings, temperance, war pensions, juvenile courts, the disappearance of the extreme destitution of the days before the war. The Governor of Durham Prison, speaking of first offenders, whose number was 18,000, compared with 45,000 in 1913-14, says:

> A new stamp of offenders has sprung into existehce. Men and women of respectable antecedents and parentage, in regular employment and in no respects associated with the criminal class, are taking to serious crime (embezzlement, fraud, false pretenses, housebreaking and robbery) with astounding facility.

He disputes the theory that lawlessness learned in the war is responsible for these crimes. The proportion of women among these offenders contradicts that theory. It is more probable that many who have been used to "big money" and can no longer get it steal to provide themselves with luxuries and amusements to which they have grown accustomed. On the other hand, some men who learned motor-mechanics in the war are given to breaking into garages and stealing motors. There is a sort of adventure about this crime; and the men who practice it are "usually intelligent and of fairly good education."

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 17

Crime — 1921.

General

THE TRUE NATURE OF CRIME.

Gospel Plea P. B. Lehman. 2/19/21

As we see men dealing with crime we feel like saying, "They know not what they do." If they understood what they are dealing with they would act entirely different.

We were all rescued from barbarism and paganism. That is, the ancestors of us all lived in barbarism and worshipped at the pagan altar. During that long period certain things were practiced long enough to be developed into well fixed instincts. Man was helpless in the power of these until Christianity came to rescue him by setting him to living a spiritual lfe and atrophying, (crucifying) these old passions which were developed into instincts.

Now living the new life is like farming. If the farmer does his work poorly his corn and wheat soon "sort out" that is, they degenerate and are no longer good and profitable crops. He has the same experience in cattle breeding. He may buy the finest breed in the world, if he gives them no care they soon run into scrubs. When man began the Christian life he began living as God directed him. If he had kept at it just right all the time there would have been a steady advancement all the time. But men let up in their efforts and so they readily "sort back" to the old type and soon are doing what their old ancestors did.

A very illustrous example of this has just occurred in our midst. Over in Arkansas lived a white man and his daughter and a colored man. We do not know all the details of how these two families lived. We know the negro was medling with blind tiger whiskey. If the white man had any part in it we do not know. It would be interesting to study the lives of both. At any rate the negro got a notion he hated the white man and he followed the bent of his mind and his mind led him right back to the mind of his ancestors in the jungle of Africa. All missionaries tell us that is is a common law among natives that if a man meddles with their women or does any other thing contrary to their established way of thinking they stealthily do away with him usually by poisoning. Consequently this Arkansas negro proceeded to kill this white man and his daughter, and then he ran off and got as far as El Paso, Texas. But his simple mind di not warn him that he should not write home and so he was apprehended and brought back.

Now in Arkansas lived a community of white people who had been bred from the Gothic tribes of Europe who always disposed of an undesirable by flying into the mob. They had been giving but little care to their Christian-living and so when this negro became a very miserable citizen they gave vent to their old instinct and so they formed a mob and burned him. All the fury of a feudal foray in private war, or of one of the dragonades of France of four hundred years ago, showed itself.

What took place here should startle all good people. It is symptomatic. If such marked symptoms of yellow fever should appear there we would begin to quarantine. What this Arkansas negro did shows the state of a great number of negroes all through our land who are thinking like their jungle folk ancestors thought and so are capable of doing to death those whom they do not like in this way. What that white man mob did shows the state of a great mass of our American citizens who are thinking as their ancestors thought centuries ago.

Now let no one imagine that what these Arkansas people did settle anything any more than curing one patient stops a yellow fever epidemic. The coming of such a crime as this negro committed is a symptom of a serious state of the Arkansas negroes and the perpetration of such a lynching as was there enacted is a premontary symptom of a social turn over such as Israel experienced in the days of the judges when all but went out. We should not rail at these people but we must raise up prophets who will call the people back again to the true path

"And the children of Israel di that which was evil in the sight o Johovah, and served the Balim; an they forsook Jehovah, the God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the peoples that were round about them, and bowed themselves down unto them; and they provoked Jehovah to anger and they forsook Jehovah, and served Baal Ashtaroth. And the anger of Jehovah was kindled then into the hands of the spoilers that that despoiled them.

"And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of Jehovah thy God, to observe to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that Jehovah thy God will set thee on high above all the nations of the earth."

"But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of Jehovah thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day, that all these curses shall some upon thee, and overtake thee."

What has taken place in Arkansas is taking place all over the U. S among all people. Some influence is at work to cause a relapse into the old instincts. In Georgia there is a resurrection of the Klu Klux Klan with the avowed purpose of attacking the Jews, the Catholics and the negroes. Such an organization can not be kept in its bounds three weeks. In Kentucky a tobacco War has been going on for some fifteen years and seems now in an acute stage. The truth of the matter is, forces have been unleashed in this country which are showing signs of reversion, and, whatever the cause may be, the remedy must be in the work of the church. We need no incrimination of any one We are all to blame and we must give our services to God for the uplift of the people.

Immorality Among the Whites.

The Washington Eagle 3-21-21

Is immorality among white people on the increase? Are the whites descending to a lower moral level? These are not idle questions, nor are they impertinent. During a residence of seven months at Memphis the contributing editor of The Eagle was greatly impressed by the fact that the daily newspapers of that metropolis of the Tri-States were full from day to day of the immoral doings of the white people of the South, the daily reports covering all the phases of immorality and scandal, from street walking to murder of the man or his mistress, the record of divorce cases being scandalously numerous, showing that "the canker and the worm" were eating deep.

On one occasion, at Memphis, members of the Ku Klux Klan raided a hotel, kidnapped certain of the inmates, held a mock trial of them in the outskirts of the city, and then turned the parties loose, to show the police how the thing should be done, a reporter of an afternoon paper being taken along to write up the mess.

We are emphasizing this matter because the daily newspapers in Memphis and the South generally maintain that Afro-Americans are without morals, and that white persons do not need to respect colored womanhood or extend it any courtesy, such as they simply slobber over white womanhood. This is in keeping with their false and mischievous attitude that all white persons are good and all black persons are bad. There are plenty of bad white men and women, and there are plenty of colored ones, and until this fact is accepted as true moral conditions in the South are bound to go from bad to worse.

In the Northern and Western States, according to the reports in the daily newspapers, morality among the whites is in a bad way. The Stokes and Stillman divorce scandals in New York are samples of the rottenness at the top, as both the men in these cases are millionaires, fashionable clubmen, and all that. The police and divorce courts work overtime upon scandals among the whites in the lower walks of society, insomuch that high churchmen and laymen moralists are demanding uniform marriage and divorce laws, more rigid enforcement of laws against immorality, and the like.

Morality among the whites of Europe, it is said, is at the lowest possible point; not all of it due to the World War either, but most of it to the moral degeneracy of the people, millions of whom, as immigrants, have helped to corrupt the morals of the American people.

Evidently white Christian civilization, corrupted in its morals, has reached the parting of the ways Whether it will recover itself and go on to higher and better living, or go into decline and fall, as Bablyon, Greece and Rome did, remains to be seen. That it has reached a crisis is plain enough on the face of it, with worship of mammon everywhere as a sufficient but distressing sign, typified in the serpent and cross in the dollar mark.

CHATTANOOGA TENN NEWS
MAY 4, 1921

OUR SOUTHERN COURTS.

For a long time, pretense has been made by certain northern and eastern politicians and newspapers that the negro could not get a fair trial in southern courts. Times without number, governors of northern states have denied the constitution and refused to surrender refugee criminals on this specious plea. During all this time, however, there has been no marked observable difference in the functioning of the courts of the various states. The southern judiciary ranks well up to that of other states or sections.

In an effort to show how little foundation there is for the accusation of prejudice against southern courts, the Asheville Citizen cites some recent instances. One of these was the Williams peonage-murder trial in Georgia. It is shown that Williams, a wealthy white man, was convicted on no other evidence than that of a negro accomplice and the fact that the murder in question had actually occurred. And the jury was composed of white men, presumably quite race conscious.

It is not often that a man is convicted of so grave an offense as murder upon the unsupported testimony of a confessed accomplice, whether the latter be white or black. It is a matter of record that a court in Idaho once upon a time, refused to credit the testimony of Harry Orchard against Big Bill Haywood and others accused of the murder of a former governor in connection with labor disorders, though there was considerable corroboration of Orchard's story. He was a partner in the crime, hence was discredited.

Another case cited by the Citizen is stated as follows:

"In the Anderson, S. C., court of general sessions recently a prominent white man was convicted of killing a negro, almost entirely on negro testimony and although the best citizens gave evidence as to the defendant's character as a peaceable and law-abiding citizen. In the same court a white man of high standing prosecuted a negro for disposing of property under lien; and although the negro's evidence was not corroborated, the issue hinging upon the testimony of the two litigants, the jury found in five minutes

(OVER)

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(From Over)

for the colored man."

The Citizen admits, as do most unbiased persons, that negroes frequently suffer injustice in the south—as they do elsewhere. But it insists that southern courts hold evenly the scales of justice in dealing with colored people. Its contention, we believe, is abundantly sustained. There is reason to believe that criminal negro refugees have been shielded by northern governors, not from fear that they would not get justice in the south, but rather from fear that they would.

There have doubtless been many miscarriages of justice in courts of the south. But the same may be said of courts everywhere. Enactment of legislation to take away much of state court jurisdiction, with especial reference to the south, has no proper predicate. More evils would be created than corrected.

TO DISCOURAGE CRIME

(Atlanta Constitution)

Asserting that "pistol-toting and blind tiger operations are responsible for three-fourths of the crime today," Judge J. D. Humphries, of the criminal division of the Fulton superior court, in charging the May term grand jury a few days ago, suggested a more stringent anti-pistol law and more rigid law enforcement as constituting the remedy.

"In the interest of public safety," said the judge, "we must not allow a wave of sympathy to deter the courts from punishing these offenders;" and he reproached the courts for too often permitting "hardened criminals to go free or with light sentences."

As a result of laxity in the apprehension of criminals and of leniency in dealing with those that are caught, he asserted, "the negro boys are committing burglaries, while the white boys are staging hold-ups and stealing automobiles."

"But," he went on to remind the jury—

"Chaingang sentences will stop them. The same thing applies to violators of the prohibition law. Many a man will gladly pay a $1,000 fine every month if he can keep on selling liquor. It is too profitable a business to be broken up by fines."

There is ample basis for the conclusion that the ease with which hip-pocket pistols may be procured in almost any hardware store or pawnshop is responsible for a large part of the homicidal crime with which our court dockets are constantly cluttered.

Under existing conditions any irresponsible citizen, negro or white, regardless of his character or frame of mind, may walk into one of dozens of shops in Atlanta, in the windows of which all manner of side-arms are on display and bidding for a purchaser, and arm himself with a loaded pistol at the cost of a dollar or two, and walk out fully equipped for slaughter. He may be drunk, or he may be sober; no appraisement is made of his mental status, or frame of mind; no effort is made to ascertain his intent or purpose.

Judge Humphries told the grand jury that in his opinion the enactment of a law "forbidding the manufacture or sale of pistols less than two feet long" would serve to "break up the carrying of concealed weapons."

Whether or not that is the kind of law that is best adapted to the situation, it is certain that legislation of some kind is needed to keep pistols away from irresponsibles; and then the enforcement of that law, and of the present ample law against blind tigering.

Neither of these menaces to life and property can be removed or ameliorated by temporizing with it.

REEL 13

Crime – 1921.

General

THE "CRIME WAVE."

UNEMPLOYMENT AND PROHIBITION.

London Times 7/4/21

COMPARISON WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

By GEORGE W. KIRCHWEY.

Do things come in "waves" over there, in those older countries with a history of social control running back to Cæsar's legions and with a settled habit of taking things as they come? I mean such things as crime and divorce and radicalism and up-springing, defiant youth. Of course, these things happen with you as well as with us. The question which the reflective American puts to himself is, do they just happen or do they come like a tidal-wave rolling portentously over the land? What such an American suspects is that your even-tempered way of taking things has robbed you of the capacity of dramatizing the most ordinary happenings of life. What zest there is in a deluge of crime as compared with a five per cent. increase in criminal statistics! Fortunately we have no criminal statistics over here, and so we shall not be robbed of our illusions of grandeur.

Frankly, it is easier to write in this philosophic vein about the "crime wave" which has recently thrown 48 State legislatures in a panic than it is to give any accurate account of what has really happened. More than once in these last six months in all the larger cities of this country has the dramatic struggle over the Reparations question and the fate of Upper Silesia, not to mention the Stillman divorce case, been crowded off the front page of the newspapers by vivid accounts of hold-ups and burglaries which rivalled the best exploits of Dick Turpin or our own Jesse James. These doings may have been touched up by the spot-light of romance, but they were real enough. No one doubts that they happened. The only question is whether they were more numerous or more daring than the similar events which, year in and year out, in the obscurer inside pages, furnish the daily pabulum of the newspaper reader.

EVIDENCE OF LARGE CITIES.

In the absence of trustworthy statistics the matter is too speculative to justify a confident answer to this question. What may, however, be ventured is a distinct impression based on the observations of penologists, chiefs of police and other qualified persons. This impression is that the total volume of crime has been less, but the number of criminal exploits of a sensational character somewhat greater, than usual.

The Chicago Crime Commission reports that "the wickedest city in the United States" had 51 per cent. less cases of homicide and 25 per cent. less burglaries in 1920 than in 1919. The Police Commissioner of the City of New York notes a falling off of from 15 to 20 per cent. in the number of homicides, burglaries and robberies for the six months ending March 31, 1921, as compared with the same period in 1919-20. Similar reports come from the municipal authorities of Philadelphia, St. Louis, Detroit, Pittsburg, and other large centres of population. State Prison statistics of the State of New York seem to indicate an increase of about 10 per cent. in commitments for felony for the year ending April 20, 1921, over the preceding year, but a decrease of 15 per cent. from the year ending April 30, 1913.

It will be noted that while these figures are not very illuminating, they do nevertheless tend to corroborate the impression that there has on the whole been no increase in the volume of crime during the period when the "crime-wave" was exacting its toll of credulity and nervous apprehension.

There is, on the other hand, a well-founded impression that much of the criminality of this period has been of a new kind—bolder, more reckless, with less evidence of skilful preparation—in short, less professional in character than the kind with which we have become familiar. The "old hand" has been conspicuous by his absence. While the number of recidivists, or repeaters, is usually very large—running up to 87 per cent. in a single year in New York State—it has in the last year been remarkably small. Most of those recently convicted of crimes of violence in New York City have been very young and without a previous criminal record, and many of them ex-Service men. The Warden of Sing Sing Prison expressed the opinion that not less than 15 per cent. of the 1,417 prisoners received in the year ending April 30, 1921, were veterans of the late war. There is nothing very conclusive about all this, but it seems to indicate that our country has not passed entirely unscathed through the crucible of the war. However light our sacrifices and sufferings may have been as compared with those of our principal associates in the war, we too have paid our toll of social demoralization and moral deterioration.

UNEMPLOYMENT AS A FACTOR.

But I think it must be admitted that this has, after all, been an insignificant contribution to the recent statistics of crime in this country, and that a more important *rôle* has been played by the two factors of unemployment and prohibition. The rapid demobilization of the armed forces of the nation and of the war industries, which had absorbed so large a proportion of the labour power of the country, coincided with a rapid development of peace-time industry. Notwithstanding the loss of the greater part of our foreign trade, the prosperity of the war period had been great enough to sustain the purchasing power of our own population till the early summer of 1920, a period of a year and a half. The rising tide of prices was gaily met, and of course, stimulated by the reckless eagerness of a large section of the public to gratify its taste for the luxuries as well as the necessities of life. As a consequence of this the armies of the republic were absorbed in industrial life with astonishing rapidity. Wages were still rising. There was little unemployment, and consequently a marked diminution of poverty and crime. The decrease in our prison population was such as to excite widespread notice and to excite the hope that the United States was losing its bad pre-eminence of being the most criminal country in the civilized world. In some States, including New York, the erection of new prison buildings was discontinued. Of the two reformatories for men in New York, Elmira and Napanoch, the latter was closed and its population transferred to Elmira, which was half empty. The commitments to Elmira, which numbered 1,328 in the year ending April 30, 1913, fell to 730 in the year ending April 30, 1920, and to 703 in the following year. (It is to be noted that 167 of these, nearly 24 per cent., were "war veterans.") The Department of Corrections of the City of New York, which has to do mainly with misdemeanants, reports a falling off of from 80,000 to 41,000 in the same period of time.

The unsubstantial foundation of the condition of prosperity above described was long in disclosing itself but has now become apparent. We have learned that no people is so self-sufficient that its population can go on for ever in the simple method of washing one another's clothes. As has been said above, the process of deflation and illumination set in about a year ago, and for six months past we have found ourselves very unmistakably a part of the world order. Along with widespread industrial unrest, marked by strikes, lock-outs, and a violent struggle over what is euphemistically called the "open shop," there is a great and, up to the moment of writing, an increasing unemployment. This has resulted for several months past in increasing criminality. The number of prisoners in the distinctively penal institutions is again going up. As an example I may cite Sing Sing, which reports an increase from 1,153 received in the year 1919-20, to 1,417 in the year just closed, an increase of over 30 per cent. The "crime wave" has spent its force but the wave of criminality goes on swelling and will doubtless continue to do so until a new era of industrial prosperity absorbs the "submerged tenth" of our population.

EFFECTS OF PROHIBITION.

I wish it were possible to satisfy the natural curiosity of your readers as to the effects of our prohibition experiment on the prevalence of crime. Coming as it did during the period of roaring trade and high wages and emerging now under conditions of widespread though not yet acute unemployment, it has been too complicated with the other factors above considered to permit us to measure its influence with any degree of accuracy. While estimates of its importance vary widely, no one on this side of the water who is qualified to express an opinion doubts that it has exerted and will, as time goes on, still more profoundly exert an influence in the diminution of crime. While the enforcement of the prohibition law is still notoriously defective, especially in the larger cities, it has nevertheless virtually done away with the saloon, which has been the "hang-out" of the criminal gang. Drink is so hard to get at and so extravagantly expensive that only the "old soak" and the wealthy clubman can indulge in the luxury with any degree of frequency, with the result that public drunkenness has almost reached the vanishing point. This is illustrated in the experience of the City Magistrates' Court of New York, in which the commitments for this offence have fallen from 4,926 in 1915 to 176 in 1920. Petty crimes and public prostitution have been similarly affected, though not to the same extent.

NATIONAL LEVEL OF CRIMINALITY.

I realize that there is nothing novel or distinctive in the foregoing recital of crime conditions in the United States. War, aggravated conditions of unemployment, and even prohibition must have played a similar *rôle* in one or another of our sister nations beyond the sea. If I go further and speak of conditions of lawlessness and criminality which are peculiar to our country it must be "with bated breath and whispered humbleness." The recent painful exhibition of race rioting and wholesale murder at Tulsa, in the State of Oklahoma, raises a shade which will not down at my bidding. nor can I ignore the fact that our ordinary tale of homicides, burglaries, robberies, and other crimes of violence is scandalously in excess of those of any other nation of the western world.

Among the salient facts which have recently been brought to the renewed attention of the American people in Mr. Raymond Fosdick's excellent study of American Police Systems, are such as these: that in 1917 and again in 1918 New York had six times as many homicides as London and from 56 to 67 more than the total of England and Wales; that in the same years Chicago, with about one-third the population of London, also had six times the number of murders of the latter city and from 10 to 14 more than the whole of England and Wales; that in 1915 New York had more burglaries than were reported for the three years 1911-1913 in all England and Wales, and in 1917 four times as many as London, while Chicago also had four times as many as London in 1917 and

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three times as many in 1918. "Even more startling," says Mr. Fosdick, "are the statistics of robbery," New York having had 838 in 1915 and Chicago about 1,300, as compared with 20 in London and 102 for the whole of England, Scotland, and Wales.

It must be obvious to any reflective mind that differences as great as these cannot be accounted for by the usual explanation of the imperfections of our system of criminal justice, which were characterized by President Taft. in an address delivered before the American Bar Association in 1909, as "a disgrace to our civilization." It is true that the administration of the criminal law of this country, with its technicalities, its multiplied appeals, the law's delays, and the influence of partisan politics, leaves much to be desired. It is doubtless also true that these conditions are maintained, against the influence of the bench and bar to correct them, by a certain sentimental attitude of the public toward the accused, combined with a widespread distrust of the wisdom and impartiality of the judiciary. We have inherited your system of criminal justice, but the profound respect for the judicial office and the sense of the rightness and inevitability of your judicial procedure have somehow suffered a sea-change in their passage to our shores. But all this seems to me beside the mark. Our very procedure and the sentiment by which it is sustained are symptomatic of profounder influences which are at the root of the greater trouble. To put it baldly, the inefficiency of our system of criminal procedure is only a phase of our criminality.

The Mixture of Races.

The deeper causes for this condition of affairs must, I believe, be found in two outstanding facts—the heterogeneousness of our population and a sentiment which it would be absurd to call lawlessness, but which may perhaps be termed lack of respect for law, and the two are closely interwoven and react on one another. You are English or Welsh or Scotch or Irish (at the moment of writing I can still say this of the Irish, though with a difference) as the case may be, and your neighbours across the Channel are French, and you are accustomed to speak of us as American without being conscious of the fact that you are using a term which has a very different connotation from that in which you employ the words English or French. To be personal, we are American in just the sense in which you and the Irish are English. The Poles say that Upper Silesia is Polish; the Germans say it is German. Which is right? The truth is we are American, English, Irish, German, Italian, Polish, Asiatic, and African. Not, indeed, antagonistic like the Poles and Germans of Upper Silesia, but a fairly harmonious aggregate, not yet a compound, of an enormous variety of racial and national groups gathered under one flag, which is an alien flag to many of them, and in one polity, which to many of them is a mystery.

Compare with the homogeneity of London, with its 14,000 Italians, New York, with her 340,000; London's 42,000 foreign-born Germans with New York's 280,000. Of the population of London only 3 per cent. is of foreign birth, but of Detroit's 33 per cent., of Chicago's and Boston's 36, and of New York's 41. And if to the foreign-born you add those of foreign parentage, we have the amazing result that 80 per cent. of the population of New York City is composed of these elements.

And as to the diversity of races, let me add that the official census proclamation of 1920 in New York City was printed in 22 languages. Then there is the Negro indigenous to the soil, but still only half emancipated from the status of slavery, and still, for the most part, illiterate and unassimilated in our social structure. *Verbum sap.* To those of us who believe that the bond of the social structure is a tradition of law and order and of social observance bred in the bone, flesh of our flesh and soul of our soul, no further explanation seems necessary. "Americanization," of which we hear so much these days, is obviously a work of generations, not of a few months or years of schooling in the constitution and principles of self-government.

The Law of Conscience.

But there is something more to be said of the American's lack of respect for law—a matter which the prohibition law is putting to the test. Where do we Simon-pure Americans stand in this respect? As to this, let it be remembered that law with us is a man-made affair, and that we know the men who make it. Our English forebears, who have, after all, put their stamp on the America of to-day, brought over with them only one law—the law of conscience. They were "a new people," and the English law from which they fled was anathema to them. So far was this carried that the Massachusetts Bay Colony solemnly adopted the law of Moses to govern them, and in several of the New England colonies it was forbidden to cite Blackstone or to render judgment in accordance with English legal precedents. It is true that as the lawyers, formed by Blackstone's Commentaries, came to take control of judicial proceedings this attitude changed, insomuch that the Supreme Court of Minnesota judicially declared that the first settlers in that commonwealth turned up the English common law when they began to plough the soil. But this was lawyer's law, not the people's. The law of the American people is still the law of conscience. It is by this that they test the external man-made law. They respect it in so far as it is worthy of respect, judged by that standard. But if they are not in the conventional European sense law-respecting, they are, nevertheless, true servants of the popular will—too servile, some of my English friends have declared—and refuse obedience to a law only if they believe that it has been "put over" on them, as the popular phrase is, by a fraction or a minority or as the result of political chicane. For this attitude, so deplored by many men in high places, they have good English precedents. They are lawless as John Hampden and John Wilkes and the Pilgrim Fathers were lawless.

I realize that in compressing material for a volume into the brief space available for your purpose I have laid myself open to the charge of being an apologist for American crime. Let me make it clear that what I have attempted is not to justify or extenuate, but to explain. A pogrom is still a pogrom, whether it occurs in the Ukraine or in Oklahoma. A lynching is foul murder whether in a backward community in our Southern States or in our Balkanized coal regions in West Virginia, and whether the victim be a Negro rapist or a conscientious objector, and whether the perpetrators be a mob of the "best citizens" or a band of yelling Comanches. When the law of conscience fails or is swept aside by race-passion or the mad psychology of the "100 per cent." patriot, the law of the land must take its place. Mob law is the negation of all law; and the community that perpetrates or tolerates it should be put under martial law. Such, indeed, are the sentiments of all Americans in their sober moments—and, may I not add, all of them are sober most of the time and most of them all the time?

Are We Making Headway?

But here the last and most stubborn question of all shows its face. What can organized society, with all its machinery of Courts and the police power, actually accomplish? What is it accomplishing on your side of the water? You have less crime than we and a swifter and surer method of dealing with it, but it still remains a constant or even an increasing quantity in the heart of your civilization. Are you sure that your present system of punitive justice is really serving you any better than ours is serving us? More and more as we confront this problem do our more thoughtful minds doubt the efficacy of the present system of punitive justice, with its unverified assumptions as to the springs of criminal action, and as to the motives which may deter the wrong-doer. Mr. Justice Holmes, of the United States Supreme Court, has put the doubt in his usual pregnant way: "What have we better than a blind guess," he says, "to show that the criminal law in its present form does more good than harm?" There are many of us on this side of the Atlantic who wonder with him whether the time has not come to re-examine the bases of our system of criminal justice in the light of science in the hope of finding a better way.

I suppose it is safe to say that in no other sphere of social control have we proceeded as ignorantly and yet as confidently as we have in the sphere of criminal legislation. Our sanitary code is based on a body of scientific knowledge regarding the nature of infectious disease and the conditions which make for its spread. Upon what body of knowledge concerning the nature of crime and the conditions which cause it to spread in the community is our penal law based? We have thought it worth while to study the mental and social conditions that have made for the survival of the war system in our international life, and we are striving to devise a solution in accordance with the conceptions to which that study has led. In the same way we are by patient investigation of causes seeking to find remedies for the inhuman and wasteful industrial conflict which is paralyzing our productive energies. But when it comes to this civil war which crime has for ages been waging against the very foundations of our social order, here and here alone we are content with assumptions—assumptions as to the nature of the criminal, assumptions as to the conditions that breed crime, assumptions as to the deterrent effect of legal penalties, some of them as old as palæolithic man, some of them incrusted superstitions derived from outworn theologies, and all the while we have the vast material for a scientific study of the problem right at hand in our hundreds of penal and correctional institutions.

Some of us in America are thinking that the knowledge of criminality that will be won by research will open more promising ways of combating the evil than that of our, or your, present system of punitive justice.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

Georgia

Crime - 1921

DROP ASSAULT CHARGE AGAINST W. S. ASHMORE

Constitution 5-24-21

Savannah, Ga., May 20.—(Special.) The case charging assault and battery against Guard W. S. Ashmore, said to have been the whipping boss of the county convict farm, was today nolle prossed. On trial, the jury recently failed to agree.

The case was prominent because the victim of the alleged assault was a shell-shocked, mentally deranged former soldier, whose case the local post of the American legion championed in prosecuting nolle prossing of the case, since the county commissioners have outlawed "whipping" of convicts in this county.

EQUAL TO RESULTS.

Constitution 5-22-21

By offering a reward of $500 for the arrest and conviction of any citizen guilty of participation in the dynamiting of a dipping vat, the commissioners of Brooks county have gone to grips with one of the most indefensible forms of lawlessness practiced in Georgia, and they have gone about it in the way that ought to lead to results.

Commenting in a commendatory vein upon this action by the Brooks board, The Tifton Gazette "ventures to guess that dynamiting vats won't be quite so popular in Brooks county as it is in some quarters;" but the mere offering of a reward, though it supplies a wholesome incentive in the right direction, will not of itself supply the remedy that is needed.

The rest is "up to" the better thought of the community, and the courts.

Those who have information that might lead to the arrest and conviction of a vat dynamiter should be public-spirited and courageous enough to place it in the hands of the authorities; and then, when an alleged dynamiter is brought to book, if the courts will see to it that he is given a speedy, impartial trial—a trial based upon the merits of the case and without any element of intimidation being allowed to enter into the proceedings—followed by the administering of stern and absolute justice, the dynamiters will soon realize that the law is bigger than they, and dynamiting of dipping vats will cease!

But the most mystifying thing about the pernicious practice of vat dynamiting is that the force of law needs to be invoked to stop it—that self-interest alone, to say nothing of reason and common-sense and public decency, is not sufficient.

As our Tifton contemporary expresses it—

"There is one phase of this question that we have never been able to understand: Why men should dynamite their own property. Dipping vats are the property of the county in which they are located. They are built at the county's expense and when they are dynamited they are rebuilt at the county's expense. Hence, when a man blows up one of them, or helps to blow one up, he destroys his own property."

More than that, the whole tendency of vat dynamiting is toward destruction of the prosperity and good name of the community and the state in which it is practised; and, as in the case of lynching and peonage, if the state authorities are unable, or for any other reason fail to put an end to it, either by moral suasion or by the forces of the law, or by both, it is as certain as the sunrise that sooner or later the federal government will take a hand to that end.

How much better for the state to act!

Calls Upon Law Abiding People to Help Enforce Law

Constitution 5-27-21

Editor Constitution: Crimes such as the murder of the chief of county police in Laurens county and the sheriff of Cherokee county are so frequent that the public may, by reason of their frequency, soon become calloused and indifferent to the menace.

The past eighteen months my duties have taken me into every county and section of the state, making the acquaintance of the sheriffs and other county officers who deal constantly with those who violate the prohibition laws and commit other crimes. The reports of the past week are peculiarly depressing, as I realize that the very best officers in the state are being shot down by wilful criminals.

The momentary lapse of the activities of federal forces in the prohibition field places on the sheriffs and county policemen increased responsibilities, and, judging from reports, some of them are endeavoring to measure up to the requirement.

It may be that these lawbreakers have not been encouraged by the politicians who are so active in defense of Georgia's reputation, but there appears to be reason to assume that they have been so encouraged. There seems to be no other explanation of Georgia's excessive criminal record as compared with records in other states with like conditions and populated by the same sort of people than education through anarchistic publications and political campaigns in which outlaws are lauded and lawlessness encouraged.

Unless the law-abiding people of the state express resentment at the audacity of the criminals who apparently assume that no officer has a right to interfere with their operations we may have cause to forget the ugly things charged in the Dorsey pamphlet as ancient history, too tame for consideration in the shadow of more atrocious deeds.

JESSE E. MERCER.

Atlanta, Ga., May 25, 1921.

WORTH CONSIDERATION.

Constitution 6/3/21

The plan of the county commissioners to pay good prisoners a nominal allowance—say $1.00 a month—as an award for good behavior is well worth consideration.

We believe, however, that in trying it out better results would be obtained if the lash would be eliminated as a method of punishment, rather than by recognizing it in depriving those upon whom such punishment has been afflicted of the benefit of participation in the award for two months.

Many of the counties of Georgia through their boards of county commissioners have abolished the lash. Chatham, of which Savannah is the county seat, was the last to act.

In our opinion public sentiment in Fulton would approve the action of the county commissioners in abolishing the lash and substituting for it some other means of punishment which would be just as effective and at the same time less repulsive and more in keeping with the spirit of the times.

ATLANTA GA GEORGIAN
JUNE 4 1921

Negro Woman Is Held For Beating Children

Charged with brutally beating her own children, Matilda Cropton, negro woman, 19 Raspberry alley, was put under $3000 bond pending grand jury action Saturday morning by Judge Johnson in Police Court.

The woman's five children were introduced as evidence by Policeman John Wood, who made the case. They were scarred and bruised over their bodies, the evidence showed.

Judge Johnson said he had never before seen an example of such cruelty.

AGAIN, THE PISTOL.

Constitution 6/9/21

Another indictment against the deadly hip-pocket pistol comes in the form of a news report announcing the death of an innocent little girl at Waycross, Ga., the victim of a misaimed bullet fired with the intention of making her an orphan instead of a corpse.

Her death, says the news dispatch—

"Came as a result of a shooting affray in Douglas several days ago, when H. Thurs, her uncle, attempted to take the life of her father, one of the shots going wild and lodging in the child's back."

Again a precious human life is blotted out; the heart of a household is saddened beyond repair; a happy Georgia community is suddenly plunged into mourning; another Georgia citizen is lying in jail with a charge of murder hanging over him; his name is disgraced and his family doomed to suffer the stigma that attaches to crime—**and a hip-pocket pistol is at the bottom of it all!**

But this is not an exceptional nor even a rare occurrence in Georgia.

Every day the newspapers of the state carry similar accounts of murders and "shooting scrapes" and accidental killings, at the bottom of which invariably is a pistol carried by its owner in violation of the law!

Often, too, the victim is an innocent third party, the sufferer from a chance or accidental shot, or a shot, fired at another, that went astray.

The case in question is particularly worthy of note in that the central figure in the tragedy was a bright-faced, innocent-hearted little girl, who should have had a long life of joy and happiness and of usefulness to the world ahead of her—a little child against whom there was no malice even on the part of her slayer, and who was capable of harboring none.

For many years Georgia's homicidal record—due in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred to whisky and the deadly gravefiller pistol—has been deplorable enough; but the worst and most alarming feature of it is that the condition is growing worse rather than improving. It has been inexpressibly bad during the last few weeks.

The question is, how long is Georgia—the legislature, the law-enforcement officials, and the decent public sentiment of Georgia—going to tolerate this sort of thing!

TWO CONFESS TO SAME MURDER IN NORTH GEORGIA

Montgomery Advertiser 6/22

(Associated Press) 6/22

ROME, GA., June 21—A remarkable story developed here today in connection with the arrest of two negroes at Cleveland, Ohio, for the murder of two negro brothers in this county in 1912 and who have been brought back for trial. The prisoners are brothers named Campbell and both were found by Sheriff Wilson of this county in prison at Cleveland when he went there on information that Jim Campbell, the man wanted, had been arrested. When the sheriff reached Cleveland both of the negroes claimed to be Jim Campbell and being unable to decide which of them was the real fugitive, the sheriff brought them both to Georgia. Each of the negroes are still maintaining that he is the man wanted for the murders, and now Sheriff Wilson is in a quandary as to which one of them should be placed on trial and which should be released from custody. He is hunting for some one to identify the men.

FEWER ARRESTS MADE IN JUNE THAN IN MAY

Constitution 7/2

Police records for the month of June show a slight decrease both in arrests and in money handled compared to the month of May.

In June a total of 1,981 arrests on all charges was made while in May the total was 2,155. The total amounts collected from all sources in the police department for June was $10,200.90 as contrasted to a total of $12,915.20 for May.

The greatest number of arrests in June was the result of charges of disorderly conduct, a total of 995. In May the number was 1,136. Drunks were next in point of numbers, 318 of them being arrested in June and 378 in the preceding month.

In May there were two arrests on charge of murder: in June there were none. The heaviest working day for the police during June was the 11th with 104 arrests. That of May had been the 22nd when a total of 144 cases were locked up.

The financial report for June is as follows:

Amount collected from all sources, $10,200.90; bonds forfeited, $200; fees on account of stock impounded, $18.50; fees on account of prisoners, $30.10; amount collected from recorder's court, $9,952.30; cost of recorder's court, $983.50; fines in recorder's court, $8,968 80.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

SHERIFF INDICTED BY BULLOCH JURY

Charged With Cruelty to Prisoners, Sheriff B. T. Mallard Declares He Whipped Only One,

Ga.
Atlanta Constitution
11/9/21

Statesboro, Ga., November 8—(Special.)—After investigating charges against Sheriff B. T. Mallard, of Bulloch county, for two days, the grand jury this afternoon returned a bill charging cruelty to prisoners.

The other investigation grew out of charges of using county funds, but in this instance no bill was returned.

"I have never whipped but one negro," said Sheriff Mallard, after learning the true bill had been returned. "This was one of the four negroes who burned a dwelling house and became very insolent, and I thought he needed a beating."

The charges for using county funds grew out of the fact of the sheriff having collected insolvent taxes before he could have a settlement with the former tax collector. He put the money on time certificate, it was shown, and returned the interest on this deposit.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime – 1921.

VAGRANCY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Savannah Tribune.

Vagrancy and unemployment are so inter-related that it would be idle to contemplate the existence of one without the other. They are handmaidens, the one the cause and result of the other, and any worthy study of the evils growing out of the one must take into purview the aspects of the other as well.

The poor, the common folk, make up the vagarant and unemployed classes, and when the conditions which make for vagrancy and unemployment are present, naturally affecting great masses of the population, many vexing social and economic difficulties result, not the least of which are suffering and crime.

The poor, the masses, have little or no directing influence to bring about the conditions which cause unemployment. The juggling of great industrial, economic, commercial and financial forces belongs by custom and usage, if not by right, to the capitalist classes and hence they must be brought to feel a direct responsibility for the troubles which arise from their manipulations.

We have in America, to a larger extent than at other places, a powerful class whose perfect organization of forces and whose control of the natural laws of supply and demand are such that they can provoke a financial, industrial or other crisis when there is no real cause or basis for it. Control of the money market, control of the policies of great industries because controlling the capital invested and control of the press, all these combine to make a power as irresistable and as cruel in its far-reaching consequences to the masses as unscrupulous and money-seeking men will allow it.

Much of the depression in industry, in the market for farm products and staple commodities, may be traced to artificial forces under "control" and clever manipulation of the "money-mad."

It seems heartless in view of the helplessness of the dependant classes that so much should be made of vagrancy in these days of closed mills and idle plants. As crime increases usually in times if industrial and economic depression, it is only natural to assign its cause to vagrancy, little considering that if all criminals were of the unemployed classes their number would be small in comparison with the great total number of the unemployed.

The public, the government, should study and handle the case of the vagrant classes with unwonted caution and patience so as to reduce the hardship of the honest and deserving unemployed, the victims mayhaps of the machinations of those who feel not the harsh hand of suffering and the law.

It is wrong in many cases to make wholesale arrests of idle men, because of the number who are honestly without work and are powerless to escape their predicament. It is unjust and un-Christian to drive the very men who made the sacrifices during the past few years both at home and in Europe that America would be no worse off for the great and cruel war than it is.

We doubt if the government, local and otherwise, is taking the earnest and serious interest in this matter of unemployment, its cause and effects, possible remedies for relieving it, as the problem deserves. Some cities and city governments are giving intelligent, expert consideration to this grave menace; civic associations and welfare organizations are rendering splendid service, looking toward relieving the distress of the unemployed. A few cities however are driving the unemployed from their gates or throwing them into prison as vagrants. Surely "Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn."

CUT BY NEGRO BANDIT, C. J. JONES MAY DIE

Atlanta Constitution 3/11/21

Charlies J. Jones, 40 years old, of 66 Harold avenue, was attacked as he was walking along Decatur street last night by a negro bandit, who stabbed him in the back, and then fled.

Jones was taken to the Grady hospital, where it was stated that his condition was critical, and that the knife, used by the negro had penetrated one of his lungs.

He told the police that he heard someone call to him to halt and just as he started to turn around, prepared to offer resistance, he was stabbed. The negro evidently became frightened, for he fled without searching his victim, thus missing $66, which Jones had in his pockets.

Georgia.

Judge Hammond Describe Punishment of Black in McDuffie Jail As Most "Hellish and Damnable Performance He Has Ever Known.

3/17/21

Atlanta Independent

Judge Henry C. Hammond, in the Superior Court of McDuffie county, Thursday, scathingly denounced J. J. Benning, jailor and deputy sheriff, for his cruel and inhuman treatment of Willie Hardwick, a prisoner in his care awaiting trial on two charges of burglary. Judge Hammond ordered the deputy sheriff never to appear as an officer in his court again, and advised the sheriff to dismiss Mr. Benning at once as jailor. The court ordered that the accused man be dismissed.

"There is nothing worse in Russia than what we may read in this record today," said Judge Hammond. In further denunciation, the court said: "I say it, measuring my words, that this is the most hellish and damnable performance I have ever known. Take an order dismissing this man."

The case of the State against Willie Hardwick, Bertha Hardwick and Clyde Jones, charged with burglary, was being tried. Certain stolen property had been found in the possession of Willie Hardwick, one ofe the three Negro boys, who plead guilty. The jailor and Deputy Sheriff, James J. Benning, was called to the stand as a witness and gave testimony as to confessions made by two of the Negroes. On examination it developed that the jailor had severely thrashed and beaten Bertha and Willie Hardwick because, as he stated, he had overheard a conversation between the two about Willie not working for him on the farm when he got out. He admitted that he had beaten the boys severely and appeared to think he was entirely justifiable in having done so. He also admitted that he had threatened to whip the wife of Bertha Hardwick if she attempted to interfere in any way. The jailor said that he had money in Willie Hardwick and that he might have bonded him out of jail or got someone to do it so he could work the money out of him, and that he had thrashed Bertha because he heard him talking to Willie about not working for him, Benning.

Orders Negroes Released.

Further on Benning stated that the confessions were not made to him until after certain white prisoners in the jail, so he had heard, had threatened to hang the negroes unless they confessed to the burglary. It was reported that these men had put ropes around the Negroes' necks and frightened them into making the confessions and that the confession Benning was testifying about was made in consequence of such treatment. The judge immediately ordered the discharge of the two Negroes, the only evidence against them being these alleged confessions. He then made the following statement to Bennings:

Court's Statement.

"We have been a long time on the road that leads to civilization and Christianity. It has taken us hundreds of years to get even as far as we are today. The pity of it all is that we are not firmly established after all these years of striving. The labor of statesmen, of thousands of just and good men at times seems in vain for we find we are slipping back every now and again into the most horrible conditions, shocking and revolting. The law is no law at all that does not extend equal protection to every one, and especially to those who are helpless and without friends — at the mercy of those who hold them in custody under the law. I would not say one word to encourage anything that was riotous or rebellious or in defiance of authority. Quite the contrary.

"I realize that there are many bad, dangerous men who are willing to violate the law and who rebel against the law, and they must be constrained and controlled. I recognize that sheriffs and arresting officers must be firm and determined and courageous in the apprehension and in securely keeping and confining the lawless. I recognize that the prison authorities must have the means of enforcing discipline upon those who are serving on the public works. Those regulations are well defined and stated by law. Now I go back for a moment to certain fundamental underlying principles that must be recognized by all decent people, all self-respecting and civilized people, by all upright and humane officers, and that is that a man put in jail is put there alone for safe keeping. He is put there with no idea of punishment. Every charge to every jury in the state of Georgia by every judge on the bench begins with these words: "Every man is presumed to be innocent until his guilt is legally established."

"This trial has disclosed to my mind the most shocking and horrible condition.

"I know Negroes are sometimes thrashed but where it is done by individuals out on the farms and other places it may or may not be to some extent excusable. That is another question. But when it is done by officials, by men who are put there, if necessary, to risk their own lives to protect their prisoners, they should do it—this is the most shocking and terrible thing I have ever heard of. That this man, this officer in authority, a jailor, should scourge a prisoner, and about matters involving his personal interest, he seeking to work one of these men on his farm. It is in my opinion, close to attempted peonage and should be called to the attention of the authorities of the United States. It is the most dreadful exhibition I have ever seen of personal misconduct on the part of a public officer. This jailer is a disgrace to McDuffie county and the sheriff should not retain him another moment in the position of jailor. I shall not tolerate him longer as a bailiff in this court while I am on the bench. I intend that this record shall be written up and presented to the grand jury as the most outrageous think I have ever known. He countenanced practically a lynching to go on inside of the jail.

"There is nothing worse in Russia than what we may read in this record today. I would not believe that such a thing could be. Had I not heard it sworn to by the offending officer himself. I denounce this jailor and his outrageous and lawless conduct."

Sheriff A. D. Adkins stated to Judge Hammond that he did not know anything about or never had known that cruel treatment had gone on in the jail. It is understood that Mr. Benning has been dismissed as jailor.—"The Augusta Herald."

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

ATLANTA GA GEORGIAN
MARCH 10 1921

Forged Recorder's Name; Gets 3 Years

Found guilty of forging the name of Recorder George Johnson to a check, Roscoe Edwards, a negro, was sentenced to three years on the chain-gang Friday in Judge Irwin's division of the criminal court. Judge Johnson and Mrs. Johnson appeared for the State and declared the check to be a forgery.

WHY THE PISTOL?

Constitution 3/24/21

Just why any peaceful, well-meaning citizen should persist in going about his everyday affairs with a murderous pistol hidden in his hip pocket is hard to understand. But, judging from the daily news reports, many of them do; and at altogether too frequent intervals we read of a good man's being laid low, or of having killed or wounded somebody else, by the accidental discharge of his weapon.

A case in point was reported in The Constitution on Monday, in which a respectable citizen of Atlanta, as the news report stated it, "was painfully injured Sunday night when he accidentally dropped his pistol on the pavement while getting into his automobile."

"The weapon was discharged," continues the report, "and the bullet entered his side. His wife was in the automobile when he was wounded."

Luckily the bullet in this instance did not produce death, for it was due only to a stroke of good fortune that it did not kill the man, his wife or some other innocent person who might have been within its range.

Why a citizen bent not upon mischief, but only on peaceful business or pleasure, starting out for an automobile ride with his wife, should be prompted to equip himself with a deadly firearm is one of the mysteries of the human nature of the day in which we are living.

Even in the event of one's being waylaid by a robber a pistol affords little protection, for the highwayman has every advantage by reason of the victim's being taken by surprise; and in the majority of cases of that kind, even if the victim is armed and gives battle he comes out second best, and it often happens that a third person is hit by a wild-flying missile of death.

Georgia needs a law prohibiting not only the carrying of deadly hip-pocket pistols, but also the sale of them to citizens not specifically authorized to carry them; then, the **rigid enforcement of that law!**

Until such safeguards are thrown round the public, human life in Georgia will continue to be cheap.

ONE WEEK OF THE PROBE.

Constitution 4/7/21

The most astounding facts brought to light during the initial week of the councilmanic committee's investigation of the bunco situation in this city are, perhaps, those bearing upon the killing of Ed Mills by Floyd Woodward, bell-wether of the swindle ring, in the Ansley hotel, April 2, 1919.

Testimony adduced shows that the Mills killing occurred two days after the bunco ring had fleeced a victim of $27,000, and it was undoubtedly a dispute over the division of the spoils that caused the killing.

One would naturally assume that the commission of a murder in one of the leading hotels of the city would have supplied sufficient incentive to lead the detectives to the bottom of it, and to get at the motive behind it.

But in this instance **not a city detective was put on the witness stand at the coroner's inquest, though five had been assigned to the investigation of the killing.**

One man, subsequently proven also to have been a member of the bunco ring, was arrested as having been an eye-witness to the tragedy.

He was kept in a cell at the police station throughout the coroner's investigation, and was never put on the witness stand!

The only testimony that was given at the inquest was that of witnesses furnished by the detective department, all to the effect that the killing was a case of justifiable homicide, and it later developed that Woodward, who had voluntarily surrendered at police headquarters on the next day following the murder, was released from custody solely on the strength of his unsupported statement to the detectives that he had killed Mills in self-defense.

After the inquest, absolving Woodward, the man who had been held as an eye-witness to the killing, and who was not permitted to testify, **was released under a criminal bond and departed for parts unknown!**

Another very significant development of the week's investigation is the apparent fact that the entire defense of the detective department rests upon its efforts to prove, not that the department has done its duty, or that it has been either diligent in its operations, **but that others were equally negligent, hence the department should not be held accountable.**

It has not been denied that time and time again the detective department was appealed to by victims of the gang.

It has not been denied that repeatedly bunco victims have furnished the detectives names and addresses of the men who had robbed them, offering to go with the officers and point out the robbers.

And yet in not a single instance was an arrest made, nor even attempted—not one!

Nor has there been any attempt to deny that this sort of thing had been going on in Atlanta for more than three years.

Not one word has been uttered in denial of the charge of either ...erence, incompetence or con...e on the part of the detec...epartment, except in an ef... involve others!

...vthing brought out thus far goes to indicate that the attitude of the two grand juries in charging the detective department with either incompetence or connivance with crime during a period of more than three years has been abundantly vindicated!

MAKING LAW A FARCE!

Constitution 4/19/21

The escape of Abe Powers from the state prison farm at Milledgeville is another episode of a series that are making law a farce in Georgia.

Powers, a confessed and proven lieutenant of the Woodward bunco gang, was arrested and placed on trial for defrauding a South Carolina farmer of $11,000. He was found guilty last December, and about a month ago he was committed—instead of to the chain-gang where convicted able-bodied felons are supposed to be sent—to the state prison farm, intended for women and afflicted men.

There, it is said, he "gained the confidence of the guards," just as he had previously "gained the confidence" of the South Carolina farmer, was made a trusty and assigned to a soft berth, corresponding to the duties of an errand boy.

Although the escape occurred early Friday morning, it was not reported to the Fulton county authorities, who had arrested and convicted him, until 10 o'clock Saturday morning, or not until the fugitive had been allowed a full 24 hours start!

Only a few weeks ago a notorious bank swindler, a man wanted by the police of dozens of cities and for whom search was being made from coast to coast, was arrested by Pinkertons in Atlanta.

He was caught "red-handed" in the very act of swindling a local bank out of approximately $10,000, taken to the police station, turned over to the detective department, and permitted to escape simply by crawling through a window of the detective headquarters' "consultation room!"

So far as we know the crook has never been heard from since!

Powers openly boasted, after receiving his sentence to the penitentiary, that he would not serve his term—that if he could not get out one way he would get out another—and he laughed in the very face of the law.

When such rogues are permitted to toy with the authority of law, and gain freedom by simply nonchalantly taking French leave by walking off the prison grounds or by climbing through an open window, the services of arresting officers become useless and attempts at law-enforcement farcical!

What is Georgia coming to, anyway!

What is to be done when convicted felons laugh in the face of the law, and openly boast that our jails and penitentiaries will not hold them—that if they cannot escape one way, they can find freedom by another route.

Just as the mere fact that Abe Powers and his fellow-swindlers were permitted to operate in Atlanta is conclusive proof either of connivance or incompetence on the part of the detective department, so is the fact of his escape, with the ease of a man walking down a country lane, **proof conclusive either of collusion or criminal incompetence on the part of somebody within the state prison department!**

Here is another phase of the bunco and general crime situation that warrants searching investigation!

Chatham County Forbids Whipping In Convict Camps

Action Caused by Whipping of Shell-Shocked Veteran of World War.

Constitution 4/6/21

Savannah, Ga., May 5.—The commissioners of Chatham county today adopted a resolution abolishing corporal punishment in the convict camps of Chatham county.

Recent investigation of the whipping of a convict who had been a soldier in France and the arrest and trial of the whipping boss who punished him caused the action. A mistrial resulted in the case. Recently there has been an agitation in Savannah against the use of the strap on convicts and the passage of the resolution today was the result.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime – 1921.

Illinois

Ga. Negro Given Long Term in Chicago For Stealing a Rooster

TALBOTTON GA ERA
FEBRUARY 17, 1921

Good Lord, man! Stealin' chicken ain't no crime—it's an accomplishment," and Eddie Bostick, a negro, of Chicago, rolled his eyes in puzzlement. He was from Georgia, and had just been sentenced to from 3 to 20 years' imprisonment after a jury, deliberating but five minutes, had found him guilty of stealing one little rooster.

"No, suh," mused Eddie, as they led him away, "it ain't nowise natural. Supposin' it a' been juicy hen, I reckon I'd got hung."

CHICAGO ILL TRIBUNE
APRIL 8, 1921

NEGRO IS GIVEN YEAR TO LIFE ON MURDER CHARGE

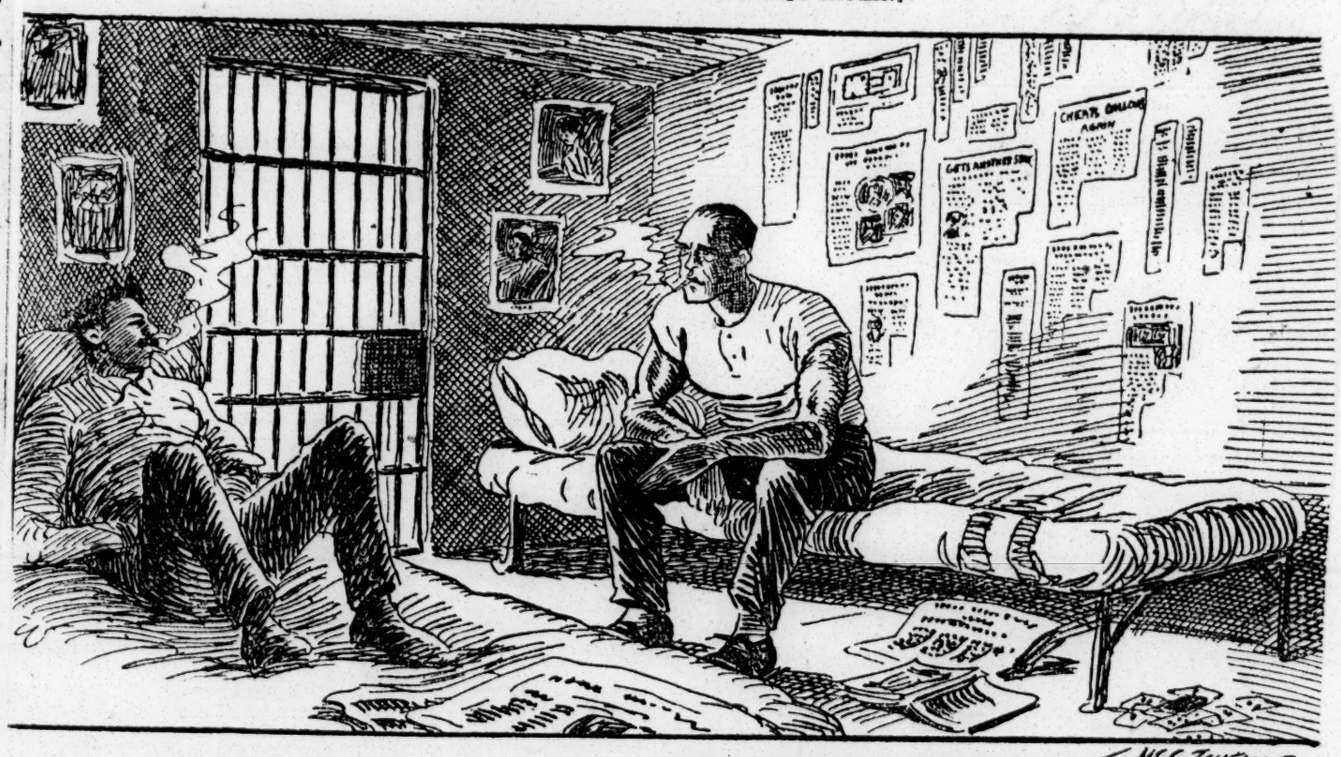
Joe Gravina, colored, was found guilty of murder yesterday by a jury before Judge Foell and sentenced to serve from one year to life in the penitentiary. He was charged with shooting Pete Sowell, a customer, in a delicatessen at 4921 Federal street.

Gravina was tried before Judge Fitch last fall, but the jury disagreed. He was again indicted by State's Attorney Crowe and retried.

In his testimony Gravina declared he shot in self-defense. He said after entering the store he quarreled with Sowell. Coffee pots, dishes, and groceries were thrown. Then, Gravina said, he saw Sowell make a movement toward his hip pocket.

HOW WE PROTECT OUR MURDERERS

[Copyright: 1921: By The Chicago Tribune.]



"Well, you see, Tony, it's this way. I bumps off a coupla boobs, frisks 'em o' their jack an' makes a snappy getaway in a stolen car with me gats barkin' at the bulls. Croaks one o' them, but they finely land me in the stir. Me skirt squawked on me. I'll get that dame if I ever get out o' this!

"The bulls got the goods on me, see, so I makes a confesh, blowin' th' whole works. I thought it was the rope for me.

"But me pals come across with a good lawyer guy. I pleads not guilty, renigs on me confesh, and tells th' world it was a phony one dragged out o' me by third degree torture, etc. It goes great and we get a bunch o' delays because they wasn't a dot over th' i or something in the inditement an' we stall along about a year before they get me in the courtroom.

"I swears I never bumped off nobody, that I was visitin' my old mother who I hain't seen for five years, but a lot o' witnesses seen me do it an' we don't get nowhere with that line o' dope.

"So we switches to insanity.

"I gets somebody to find me old mother and drag her in the courtroom to look sad and work on the sympathies o' th' jury. She looks purty thin and sad lookin' from hard work and worry, etc., an' she pulls th' weeps all over the place.

"We hires some insanity experts to testify I'm batty, but the other side has some more experts who says I'm O. K. in th' bean.

"Well, th' jury, the rotten stiffs, gives me th' limit—the necktie party. They was a wise bunch and didn't fall for the weeps.

"Me friends come across with some more jack and me lawyer says cheer up, we ain't dead yet, we got a few more tricks up our sleeve.

"So he frames up a lot o' dope an' gets me to do some batty stuff an' we gets th' execution staved off. We gets a commish to give me th' once over and th' stiffs says I'm sane all right. An' so they sets the day and date for th' hangin'.

"Well, I'm about ready to give up and get religion, but me lawyer says nix on that stuff, they's still a chanct. He goes to th' Supreme court and gets a delay for to have my bean examined again to see if I'm loco, an we gets another breathin' spell.

"Finally th' day o' execution comes around again, and I'm readin' th' Bible and gettin' ready to do th' big dropoff. But me lawyer's a foxy guy and rings in some new evidence about something queer I done when I was a kid an' hustles down to the gov. and pulls off another reprieve to test my insanity.

"Now we got a delay of a few months an' by that time th' public loses all interest an' I gets my sentence commuted to life and by an' by th' pardon board gets mushy some day and lets me out.

"An' when they do, they's a few stiffs I'll settle accounts with, includin' th' skirt that [illegible] on me."

In The Grip Of the Law

Robbendin 4/30/21

Robbed of Diamond Pin

Edward Spann and Thomas Williams were found guilty of strongarming and holding up James Udormna at 122d street and Michigan avenue and robbing him of a diamond pin, overcoat and hat. Judge Francis Wilson sentenced Spann to the penitentiary at Joliet and Williams to Pontiac.

Robbed Yellow Cab Driver

William Fowler, 3416 Indiana avenue, was found guilty of holding up with a gun and robbing George Vivian, a Yellow Cab driver, of $17.70 February 27 last. He was captured by Officer McGruder, Fourth precinct, as he was running away from the scene. He was sentenced to Pontiac for from ten years to life by Judge Francis Wilson of the Criminal Court.

Attempted to Kill Wife

Henry Boyd, alias Ed Watson, was sentenced to one year in the house of correction and fined $1,000 by Judge Francis Wilson of the Criminal Court on a charge of assault with intent to kill. Mrs. Lola Boyd, 3154 Federal street, the wife of Henry, testified that she and her husband were separated but when he met her at State and Tenth streets February 19 last he drew a knife and cut her from her ear to the point of her chin, and when she fell he cut her again. She expressed dissatisfaction at the sentence, but when it was explained that Henry would serve out the $1,000 fine she was pleased with the verdict.

Stole $12 Worth of Stamps

Will C. Leslie was sentenced to one year in the house of correction and fined $1 by Judge Joseph David of the Criminal Court. He was arrested by Officers Dorigan and Boeker, Fourth precinct, after he had broken into the store of Jacob Sure, 10 West 47th street, and stolen $12 worth of stamps.

Auto Tires Stolen

George Thompson, 4306 Wabash avenue, told Judge John F. Haas of the Harrison street court that after his automobile had been stripped of its tires he located one on the machine of Elijah Meredith. Meredith, in turn, said that Will King, 2916 Prairie avenue, had bought the tire at his direction and put it on his car. King claims that he bought the tire from James Robinson, but did not know his address. The court intimated that, unless Robinson is produced, the two men face a prison sentence.

Held on Serious Charge

Mason Gaither, a roomer in the home of Mrs. Naomi Lee, 3226 Prairie avenue, was held to the grand jury in bonds of $5,000 by Judge John F. Haas of the Harrison street court for assaulting little 12-year-old Jessie Logan. The case was placed in charge of Mrs. Jessie Thomas, juvenile probation officer.

Arrested on Larceny Charge

Earl Fletcher, 19, 3401 Prairie avenue, was held to the grand jury under $1,500 bonds by Judge Morgan of the Stock Yards police court. He was arrested by Officers Brown and Swain, Fourth precinct, on a larceny charge preferred by Charles A. Siddons, 764 East 40th street.

Took Pullman Blankets

Willie Jones, 3452 Wabash avenue, who was arrested by Sergeants Barry and Ward, 35th precinct, on complaint of Walter Clark, special inspector for the Pullman Company, was fined $5 and sentenced to one day in jail by Judge John F. Haas of the Harrison street court for having Pullman sheets and blankets in his possession.

Operates Con Game

Jerome Washington, 25, 5225 Federal street, was arrested by Sergeants Ahern, Gleason, Johnson and O'Leary, Fourth precinct. Judge Morgan of the Stock Yards court held him to the grand jury under $1,000 bonds on the testimony of Fred Purcell, 5216 [illegible] eral street, who charged Wash with obtaining money under fals tenses.

Charged With Burglary

Samuel Bell, 40, 840 Franklin who was arrested by Officers Stadfield and Crowe, Fourth I and charged with burglary b

Arthur Wright In Trouble

Arthur Wright, 24, 541 East 36th street, was sentenced to thirty days in the house of correction by Judge John F. Haas of the Harrison street court for larceny. He was arrested by Officers Johnson and Dennis, 35th precinct, on complaint of W. A. Worme, 3658 State street.

Sky Banks Went Sky-High

Sky Banks, 27, Glen Ellyn, came to the city to have a large time. He had it. In fact, he was so enamored of the sights to be seen that he was arrested by Officer Ptacek, Third precinct, on a charge of disorderly conduct. He is now enjoying the city's hospitality, for he was fined $100 and costs by Judge John F. Haas of the Harrison street court.

Pays High Price for Drink

Noble Nickols, 3501 Wabash avenue, who hails from Houston, Tex., knows now that you have to pay for getting drunk here. He was fined $5 by Judge John F. Haas of the Harrison street court after being arrested by Officer Harry Dease, 35th precinct, and charged with drunken and disorderly conduct.

Placed on Probation

Judge Joseph David of the Criminal Court placed Robert Duke, 3031 Prairie avenue, on probation for one year with the stipulation that he make restitution of $195 to James and Fannie Milner, 3100 Ellis avenue. Duke was arrested by Officer Palmer Walker after he had entered the Milner home.

James Lee Fined

James Lee, 48, 4941 Federal street, was arrested by Sergeants Tucker and Jackson, Fourth precinct, on complaint of Mrs. Mary Jackson, 5008 Dearborn street. He was fined $15 by Judge Morgan of the Stock Yards police court.

Passed Bogus Check

Aaron Matton, 4919 State street, was arrested by Sergeants Barry and Ward, Stanton avenue station, and charged with passing a bogus check for $21.50 on the Lincoln State Bank. His case will be heard May 5.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

man Goodman, 5916 South Park avenue, was held to the grand jury under $5,000 bonds by Judge Morgan of the Stock Yards police court.

Five Discharged

Henderson Walker, 26, 4518 Champlain avenue; Oliver Walker, 24, 4015 Vincennes avenue; William Morris, 23, 4518 Champlain avenue; Leon Taylor, 36, 552 East 36th street, and E. Hudson, 21, 4518 Champlain avenue, who were arrested by Sergeants Grace, Daliege and May, Fourth precinct, and charged with robbery on complaint of James Ralston, 4456 Cottage Grove avenue, were discharged when arraigned before Judge Morgan of the Stock Yards station.

Woman Gets Three Months

Miss Lenora Parker, 3546 Federal street, was sentenced to three months in the house of correction by Judge John F. Haas of the Harrison street court for carrying concealed weapons.

MAKING THE "BLACK BELT" THE GOAT

THE REMARKS, credited to Captain John B. Enright of the Cottage Grove police station through the medium of an interview which was published in one of our daily papers somewhat surprised us. In reading the remarks the impression would be created upon the mind of one who does not know better that the so-called "black belt" of Chicago, which happens to be the territory over which this officer presides, "is the foulest spot in Chicago," in fact this is what he positively asserts. That we have our share of criminals we do not deny. And we have no disposition to make any excuses, defenses or apologies for any lawbreaker regardless of his racial identity.

ON THE CONTRARY we have repeatedly insisted that the laws and ordinances be rigidly and impartially enforced in all sections of the city. The declaration by this officer, however, that the so-called "black belt" is the foulest spot in Chicago is not in harmony with the truth. He does not seem to realize that even that part of it which is true is a reflection upon him and the department with which he is identified. If he and his subordinates were as proficient as they should be such conditions could not possibly exist. His assertions are calculated to give color to the allegations made by States Attorney Crowe that the police—in some sections of the city at least—protect rather than detect offenses referred to.

IF THIS IS TRUE of any locality Captain Enright's district, according to his own confession, is one of them. But the impartial observer of current events knows that even Captain Enright's indictment of himself is overdrawn. As bad as conditions may be in the "black belt" there are other belts in which they are worse. In the 19th ward, for example, conditions are so bad that there seems to be very little security for human life, and a black face is a stranger in the ward.

BUT SINCE THE PUBLICATION of this remarkable interview a number of raids have been and are being made in places that are usually frequented by the higher-ups. Still no black faces in sight. In these raids some of our first-class hotels did not escape. We venture the assertion that no conditions in the "black belt" have been or can be worse than those mentioned.

LET US GET RIGHT DOWN TO THE POINT; the main reason the searchlight is constantly turned on the "black belt" is that the color line is not drawn in this particular territory. The principle source of complaint is not that there is gambling, not that there are cabarets, not that there are a few places of ill fame—for these things exist in a larger degree in other parts of the city—but because here the two races meet as social equals. This is the milk in the cocoanut.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

Crime – 1921.

Louisiana

MONROE LA STAR
FEBRUARY 18, 1921

SENTENCE BLACK FOR HOG THEFT

Tom Carter, negro, arrested by Deputy Sheriff D. L. Roper, was sentenced to one year in the state penitentiary by Judge Fred M. Odom in the Sixth District court on a charge of stealing a hog.

The sentence of Carter was a record for quick handling by court officials, the negro having been sentenced within a remarkably short time after his arrest.

Deputy Sheriff Roper went to the negro's house and saw his wife carrying out a box. Asking her what it was, she replied that it was ashes.

The deputy sheriff investigated and found that the missing hog was there. The negro started to run, but when the deputy sheriff advised him to halt, he did so.

Jim Howard, a negro, implicated in the same case, has also been arrested.

NEW ORLEANS LA STATES
APRIL 5, 1921

Hold Man Charged With Murder at Patterson, La.

Walter Barnes, a negro, said to be wanted in Patterson, La., on charge of murder, was arrested here Monday by Patrolmen Jacobs, Russo, and Roach. He is alleged to have cut to death a negro named Edward Powell at Patterson, in July of last year. Barnes is being held for the Patterson authorities.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

Kentucky

Crime — 1921.

LOUISVILLE KY COURIER JRNL
APRIL 1, 1921

Prison Terms Allotted Four Negroes By Juries

Four negroes received terms in the enitentiary ranging from one to ıree years and one was sentenced to x months in jail by juries in the riminal Court yesterday.

James Polston was given the jail ıntence for knowingly receiving olen property worth less than $20; ıarles Warren, alias Washington ckson, was sentenced to two years r cutting and wounding a negro ɔman; Albert Paker received a sen-nce of one year for grand larceny. d William Smith and Fred Fields ere sentenced to serve three years ch for grand larceny.

The grand jury yesterday indicted ın Horton on a charge of carrying black jack, a deadly weapon, con-aled.

Louisville Herald 6/11/21

WHY IS A POLICEMAN?

Policemen are guardians of the peace. They represent authority. But it is not their function to brow-beat and curse and even black-jack persons under suspicion of arrest however serious may be the alleged crime. In the old days policemen got by with this rough stuff. But those days are gone forever and particularly did we feel they had gone. Under a Republican administration which Colored voters had done so much to put in office. We make this racial distinction for we note of late a disposition on the part of many policemen to be rough with Colored men and the remarkable part about it is they are rough with th hard-working, respectable easy going Colored men while the pimp and the loafer and the denizen of the underworld get their highest respect and consideration.

The conduct of some of this latter class is shocking. They crowd certain thoroughfares and "skylark" and curse and the air vibrates with their vulgarity and the officers of the law give them an indulgent smile and walk single file through the crowd.

But let them get some easy-going, hardworking poor fellow and they curse him and threaten him and become devils instead of guardians of the peace. We have in mind the case of a hard-working man, who never drank nor gambled in his life. His employers, grocers, neighbors testified that he was a good citizen. Thre officers grabbed him on susupicion of being in a crap game—a huge joke—and called the wagon. He entered it, a man physically fit, he left it, a physical wreck having been blackjacked by the brave coppers. He was fined $5.00 and the fine susupended—another joke. His case was reported to the Board of Public Safety by the President of the N. A. A. C. P. That august body took no heed of the complaint and charges filed. But that august body will take heed in November. August—November—another joke.

Policemen are necessary. That's true. But it is not necessary to beat up inoffensice citizens. You know that's the truth.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

Crime – 1921

Indiana.

TERRE HAUTE IND TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 3, 1921

120 DAYS ON PENAL FARM FOR THEFT OF AUTO TIRE

Asa Williamson, 27 years old, was fined $10 and costs and sentenced to 120 days to be served on the state farm by Judge Paul Shafer Thursday morning in City Court, when he was found guilty of a charge of petit larceny.

Williamson, it is charged, stole an automobile tire from Levin Bros.' garage which he was attempting to sell at a garage on South Ninth street when he was arrested. Williamson said that he had bought the tire from a negro on North Third street Tuesday night for a dollar.

INDIANAPOLIS IND TIMES
APRIL 4, 1921

Alleged Vagrant Convicted.—W Phillips, negro, alleged vagrant, s rested yesterday by Detectives Ber and Roberts was later in the day ta on before Acting Police Judge L. Shelley on a charge of vagrancy a given a ninety-day suspended se tence.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime—1921

Maryland

A STATE CONSTABULARY

The Afro-American
~~Baltimore Afro-American~~

What It Is, How It Works And Why It Is A Menace To The Common People. The Peoples Party Protests Its Introduction Into Maryland.

Quite recently in our history, there has developed a new arm of "law and order"—The State Constbulary. This is a mobile force of police subject only to the State authorities which may be thrown into any situation which is supposed to require special police activities.

On the fade of the statement there appears to be nothing unwarranted in this new police development, provided one has confidence that justice and equity and not human passions and self interest always animate the police officers. Unfortunately history and our own experience does not justify such confidence. We know that the average policeman whatever his initial viewpoint becomes hardened and callous; his personal interests in the form of rewards from his superiors longer in the service and therefore more callous to human suffering and weakness, and fear of violence to his own body prompts him quickly to adopt a brutal attitude toward those whom he is called upon to arrest.

This tendency to brutality and high-handedness is bad enough even when a policeman works in his own community among people whom he knows and who may thru the force of opinoin restrain him from acts which are not condoned by his fellow citizens. The situation is infinitely worse when he is called upon to act in strange community from which he will be recalled as soon as his work is done.

It is to be noted that we have the germs of such a Constabulary here already—the motor-cycle police. But the force is very small and rest on very insecure legal authority and it is generally understood that Governor Richie intends to work the next General Assembly to pass a law, which hitherto failed of passage—which will really establish a State Constabulary. A sinister factor in the situation is that men who are heavily interested in the coal mines of Western Maryland where industrial confict is ever brewing, contributed generously to the campaign fund which elected Governor Richie and there are some who believe that these men want a State Constabulary; the big business interests which exploit the common people both heed and want it. Which shall it be? Ask your legislative candidate to pledge himself to vote against any bill directed toward the establisnment of a State Constabulary. The candidats of the Peoples Party will be so pledged. You should vote for them and feel sure that you are safe-guarding the interests of the ocmmon people The old parties are financd by the rich and they therefore work for the rich alone. Havent you had enough of this?

TRUMPED UP CHARGE OF POLICE OFFICER FALLS DOWN IN COURT

Police Practice Of Entering Homes Without Warrant And Abusing Occupants Exposed

ERNEST PALMER FREED

Baltimore Md.

Judge Dobler Finds The Law Guardians Too Aggressive

Afro-American
11/12/21

The habit of some policemen rushing into the homes of colored people, using abusive and profane language therein and otherwise mistreating them was given a jolt by Judge Dobler, sitting in Criminal Court Part 2, when he speedily found George Ernest Palmer, 611 Stirling Street, not guilty on a trumped up charge of assaulting an officer. J. Steward Davis was man's attorney.

From the testimony given at the trial it appears that two police officers wihout the formality of knocking entered the Palmer home while searching for a man on September last. They demanded to know Palmer's name, and he told them.

"Who in the h-ll else lives here?" asked one of the policeman, to which question he was told only the Palmer family. Mr. Palmer then asked if that was the way they acted when they went into people's homes.

"That's the way we act in yours," was the reply.

"Well, I am going uptown and see if I can get better treatment," the policemen were told.

Both then left Mr. Palmer following them to the door in his bare feet. One of the coppers came back and said: "You are a smart nigger and I've a great mind to come up there and arrest you."

When Mr Palmer replied that he was not going to be arrested, the policeman bounded up the steps and struck him over the head with his blackjack. A footrace began Mr. Palmer finally being captured in the stable in the rear of his home. Without being allowed to put on his shoes and stockings he was arrested and a charge of assaulting an officer laid against him.

BALTIMORE MD. EVE. SUN
— DECEMBER 30, 1920

THREE ASSAULTS LAID TO NEGROES

Woman In South Baltimore Attacked As She Leaves Back Yard On Way To Store.

Negroes in South Baltimore last night and this morning attacked and attempted a criminal assault on a woman, it is alleged, gagged and robbed a pedestrian and beat a storekeeper almost unconscious before being frightened off by the man's wife, according to reports made to the police. Though robbery was attempted in each instance, only one victim suffered any loss.

Mrs. Maggie Moyer, 1137 Denver street, was attacked by a colored man as she stepped outside the back yard of her home, on the way to a store close by, shortly after 6 o'clock this morning. According to her statement to the Southern district police, the man seized her about the waist, and, opening her coat, attempted to search for her pocketbook. He found only a store account book and after seeing that there was no money in it, threw it away. Mrs. Moyer said he also attempted to assault her, but when the approach of a man was heard, released her and said she could "go ahead." She was terrified and ran into her home.

Woman Describes Assailant.

The assailant was described by Mrs. Moyer as being a light-skinned negro, about 36 years old, and 5 feet 8 inches tall. She said he wore a short chinchilla overcoat.

Report was also made of an assault on Ennis Batton, 40 years old, 802 Hanover street, as he was on his way home last night. He said that as he was passing Hanover and Hughes streets three negroes jumped out of Hughes street and held him. One choked him, he said, while another got his handkerchief out of his pocket and gagged him with it. They were going through his clothes when Patrolman Anthony McHale, patrolling his post, saw what was going on and ran to Batton's assistance. The negroes fled and got away. They took his watchfob, tobacco and the handkerchief, being frightened off before they could get his money.

Grocer Felled By Blow.

Samuel Shechter, who conducts a grocery store at 170 West Hamburg street, told the police that a negro had entered his store last night and asked for meat, but when he had turned to cut it, was struck over the head. He fell to the floor and was hit a second time. While he lay stunned the negro started for the cash drawer, but Mrs. Shechter, hearing her husband's fall, ran into the store and screamed. The negro fled without getting any of the money or stock.

Shechter has several severe abrasions of the scalp. He could not give an accurate description of his assailant.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime – 1921.

Michigan.

HOW DETROIT CLEANED UP BY ITS CHIEF OF POLICE

To the Afro-American: 11/23/21

I have your letter of June 25th, asking how the colored sections of this city were handled during the drive which we made on crime in September.

It was in the colored section that our most intensive work had to be done. In September, when we were passing through the worst period this city had known, an analysis of the situation showed that while the colored population of Detroit was just about five per cent of the whole, or about 50,000 to a million, about forty per cent of all crimes were committed by colored people, and in some crimes the percentage ran as high as sixty-five.

We had had for a couple of years a large influx of colored men from the South, attracted by the unusual opportunities for high wages which Detroit offered, and it was evident that most of our trouble was coming from that element. While all of the tenderloin districts of the city, both white and colored, were combed over every night, the most intensive work was done among the colored and Italian people, with the purpose of gathering in all men who were carrying concealed weapons.

In the beginning of the campaign I received protests from quite a number of our leading colored citizens who had been stood up on the street and searched for weapons, and several delegations called upon me, but in every instance when I explained the situation to them and showed them the figures which I was keeping out of the press and away from the public, they agreed with my policy and told me to go ahead with the work, and I think that when we got through the better element of the colored population was convinced that we had done a lot of good.

In ordinary times we use our colored policemen as much as possible in colored sections and I believe they are of especial value in that work. They took an active part in our drive but of course were reinforced by a large number of white officers during that time.

I am

Very sincerely yours,

JAMES W. INCHES

Commissioner

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

Crime - 1921.

Mississippi

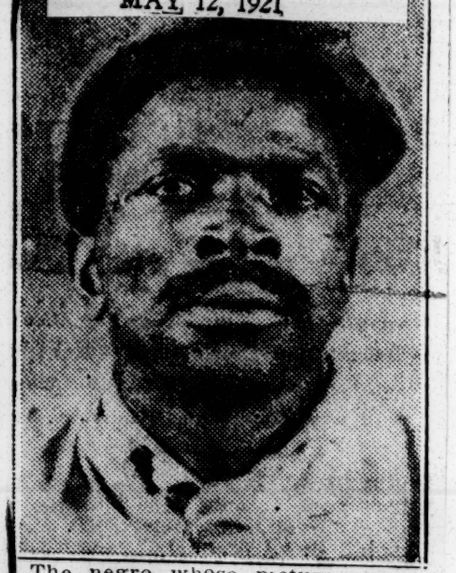
Laurel Miss Leah

JANUARY 12, 1921

Goldsby's Hardest Job.

R. T. Goldsby, the notorious negro criminal of Vicksburg, who gave former Governor Bilbo, Senator Murray and others several thousand dollars to get him out of the penitentiary and secure a "suspension" of sentence, a return to the pen, an "escape" and another conviction, says he intends to sue Bilbo and Murray for the $3,000 which he claims he paid them. Goldsby has done several unusual stunts, but when he gets any money back from Bilbo he will have done the superhuman act.—Greenville Democrat-Times.

MEMPHIS TENN APPEAL
MAY 12, 1921



The negro whose picture appears above is under arrest at Tutwiler, Miss. He claims to be Frank Harris, formerly of Bartlett and Millington, Tenn. He is dark ginger cake color, 5 feet 6 inches tall, small scar over left eye, 39 years old; dressed in blue suit of overalls and natty gray cap. If interested, address B. P. Stevens, Mayor, Tutwiler, Miss.

MERIDIAN MISS. DISPATCH
MAY 14, 1921

SEVERAL FINED IN POLICE COURT FRIDAY

Three alleged trespassers were fined $5.50 each in oplice court yesterday morning. One defendant, charged with petit larceny was fined $10.50 and a fine of $5.50 was assessed against an alleged speeder. The case of a negro charged with assault and battery, was continued, on account of the complainant being unable to attend court to testify.

VICKSBURG MISS POST
MAY 17, 1921

Good Morning, Judge!

Dewey Williams, colored, will be careful hereafter, how he flourishes his "thumb-hole" pistol, whatever that is, for he narrowly escaped a fine on a gun charge, in the city court this morning. The fact that Lelia Ellis was the only one who saw the peculiar weapon, was all that saved him from Judge Waggener's fixed $100 fine for gun-toters. About all that Leila could tell about the gun was, "'twere one o' them li'l tenny 'thumb-hole' pistols, what only fires one shot." The judge let it go at that and merely fined Dewey $5 for breaking down Lelia's door. He fussed at Lelia for raising objections to the company he was keeping when he was supposed to be the starboarder in her east Clay street home.

Lizzie Thomas had to pay $2.50 for disturbing Lizzie Thomas' peace; Elnora Johnson got stuck for $5 for hitting Luck Blake with a club when she dared to walk in Elnora's special doorpath and a young white speeder, late for supper was fined $5.

"What a rotten session" commented the judge, as he autographed the affidavits.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime 1921. Miss. & Ga.

White Men Exceed Negroes Arrested, Says Police Data

Officers Make Record of Almost an Even Break in Recovering 250 Stolen Autos.

White men of Atlanta were not nearly so well behaved as a rule as the negroes, according to the annual report of Chief of Police Beavers made public last night. During the year 10,922 white men were arrested, while only 3,336 negro men fell into the clutches of the law.

However, the negro women far outshone the members of their sterner sex. No less than 18,310 of these found their way to the city jail, while but 1,639 white women were arrested.

Total arrests for the year were 26,275 and these arrests resulted in fines totaling $221,976. Stolen goods were recovered to the extent of $438,731.71, while the police department almost batted 500 on recovering stolen automobiles. Five hundred and twenty-two cars were pilfered and 250 of these were returned to their owners.

A CORRECTION

January 5, 1921.

Editor Constitution,
Atlanta, Ga.

My Dear Sir:

I am calling your attention to an article appearing in your paper January 1st with reference to the number of colored women that were arrested during the year 1920 in this city. Your paper stated that there were 18,310 colored women arrested. Upon investigation, we find that there were only 5,321 colored women arrested instead of 18,310. This statement may be verified by getting in touch with Chief Beavers' office.

We shall appreciate it very much if you will make this correction in your paper that our colored population, especially our colored women, may have the advantage of the true status of the situation and may not longer be embarrassed or suffer from this misrepresentation of the facts in the case. I do not think this was done intentionally. It must have resulted from a typographical error.

Yours for simple justice,
JESSE O. THOMAS,
Field Secretary.

Governor Demands Return of Negro To State Prison

Jackson, Miss., January 6.—Governor Lee M. Russell today notified Sheriff Shannon, of Warren county, that he would give him until Monday, January 10, to deliver R. T. Goldsby, negro, to the penitentiary authorities at Parchman farm, and that in the event of his failure or refusal to do so the governor would either remove him from office or institute proceedings for possession of the negro.

Goldsby was sentenced in Warren county to a five-year term in the penitentiary for receiving stolen goods. After a short while in prison his sentence was suspended by the governor upon representations of the negro's attorneys that he was in bad health and could live but a short time. An insistent demand was made for the return of Goldsby to the prison, whereupon the governor cancelled the suspension. Goldsby was re-arrested in Chicago, where he was attending the national republican convention, apparently in good health.

After being returned to the prison farm Goldsby is said to have bribed a guard and made his escape. The guard pleaded guilty to accepting the bribe and now is serving sentence. The negro was later located by Warren county officers and is now in jail at Vicksburg awaiting trial on several charges.

Sheriff Shannon is said to have informed the governor that he was acting on the advice of his attorneys in holding Goldsby.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime – 1921.

Missouri.

Quite A Contrast In Justice

St. Louis Argus. 2-4-21.

What looks to us like a strange case of administering justice was called to our attention a few days ago through a newspaper report of two convictions of first-degree robbery in the Circuit Court, here last week. One of the defendants was a white man, who was convicted of robbing a man of $340. He was sentenced to 5-years in the penitentiary. The Negro was convicted of a drugstore robbery of $10. He was sentenced to serve a 10-year term in the penitentiary.

A statement of the case as reported in the daily press:

"Two highwaymen were convicted of first-degree robbery by juries in the Circuit court yesterday and were sentenced to the penitentiary.

"James Regan of 1821 South Broadway was given a five-year sentence, in Judge Landwehr's court. for holding up Capt. James Phillips of the Steamer J. M., at Second and Morgan streets, last Aug. 13, hitting him on the head with a revolver and robbing him of $340. Regan admitted that on Feb. 25, 1919, he pleaded guilty to carrying a concealed weapon and was fined $100.

"Will Ester, a Negro, of 2204 Walnut street, was sentenced to 10 years by a jury in Judge Hartmann's court. He and another Negro held up the restaurant of Toney Agres, 608 South Jefferson avenue, last November and obtained $10. William Tally, another Negro, who was indicted with Ester on the same charge, took a severance and has not yet been tried."

A case like this raises one or two important points in connection with the administration of justice in our courts. First, the question of whether a jury composed of all white men will deal as justly with a Negro charged with an offense as they would a white man charged with the same offense? Second what charge did the jury receive from the bench?

No one can read the above statement in the light of facts given in the news item, without feeling that something is wrong with justice.

The case summarized: The Negro gets ten years for taking part in a ten (10.00) dollar robbery; the white man gets five years for robbing a man of three hundred ($300.00) dollars. Quite a contrast in justice.

Crimes and Punishments

St Louis Argus 11-3-24

A white man charged with the theft of Liberty Bonds valued at approximately $35.000 and a Negro accused of stealing $6 were arrainged recently before Federal Judge Faris. Both pleaded guilty. The former was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary, the latter to eight years.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

ST LOUIS MO GLOBE DEMOCRAT
MARCH 20 1921

17 GIVEN SENTENCES TOTALING 135 YEARS

Two Defendants Get Terms of Twenty-five Years Each.

Judge Landwehr sentenced seventeen defendants in criminal cases to a total of 135 years' imprisonment after they had either been found guilty or plead guilty and were arraigned before him for sentence yesterday. The penalties for the various offenses ranged from twenty-five years, imposed against Raymond Diltmeyer on two charges of robbery, and William Stambough for attack, to sentences of two years.

Harry Schmelzer received eight years for participation in the National Refrigerator Company pay roll robbery, two years for operating an automobile as an accessory to the robbery and two years on another charge of grand larceny.

Five offenders—Clarence Ebert, 19; Henry Bender, 18; Arthur Schneider, 19; William Meyer, 18, and Harry Newman, 17, each convicted on a charge of robbery in the first degree and given sentences of five years—were ordered sent to the Reformatory because of their youth.

Other sentences imposed by Judge Landwehr were:

Lindsay Hartson, negro, larceny from the person, two years.

William Dengel, robbery in the first degree, five years.

Arthur Brooks, negro, robbery in the first degree, six years.

Ike Washington, negro, robbery in the first degree, ten years.

William Stambough, twenty-five years for attack.

Leo Marchiewski, five years for robbery in the first degree.

James Johnson, negro, robbery in the second degree and larceny, two years.

Henry Prater, fifteen years for attack.

James W. Hughes, negro, two years for an attempt to kill.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

New Jersey

Crime — 1921.

WATERTOWN N Y STANDARD

MARCH 28, 1921

ONE-SIDED JERSEY JUST E

Down in New Brunswick, New Jers , wo, weeks ago Saturday night, a drunken negro attacked and murdered a pretty young white woman.

The crime was solved in two days. The Grand jury brought in an indictment in record time. The trial was held and the negro convicted and sentenced with breath-taking speed, measured by court precedents.

As a result of this rapid disposition of one of the most revolting crimes chronicled in these days of many law violations, much is being said about "Jersey justice" and the lack of delay. Commendable it is and in shining contrast with many trials.

There is another phase of the problem, however, wherein "Jersey justice" has feet of clay. The negro murderer was transformed into a fiend of alcoholic drink. In his confession of the crime he told where he bought it. Jersey justice has not meted out punishment to the man who sold the gin, although in many minds no small part of the guilt for the crime is his.

The negro deserves the maximum punishment of the law, but the man who sold him the stuff that transformed a human being into a maniac should be punished too. Morally he is an accessory, legally he is a law violator.

INSTITUTE FOR BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

Crime — 1921. New York.

LONG ISLAND CITY N. Y. STAR
APRIL 13, 1921

Imprisonment Before Trial.

Lanning Love, a negro, indicted by a Queens grand jury on a charge of stealing an automobile, will be placed on trial Friday. He protests that he is innocent, yet already he has spent five months in jail.

Should he be convicted, the fact that he has been deprived of liberty for a considerable period presumably will be taken into consideration when sentence is imposed.

But suppose he is innocent. What then? He shall have suffered five months' imprisonment for an offense he did not commit.

Love, though the son of a minister in rural New Jersey, was apparently without friends of sufficient influence to retain a lawyer for him at the time of his arrest. He was without legal aid until after his indictment, when, as the law provides, County Judge Humphrey appointed counsel to defend him at his coming trial.

The counsel which the state has thus given him makes a series of interesting assertions. He declares that Love, after his arrest in New Jersey last October, was held in jail there for eight days.

Then a New York detective came after him and, it is charged, brought him handcuffed to New York without having obtained extradition papers.

Love was arraigned at Far Rockaway police court, held for the grand jury, indicted on evidence said to be insufficient, and locked up because he had no one to go on his bond.

Guilty or not guilty, Love apparently has not received the full protection which the law offers to a man accused of crime. Had he had legal advice from the beginning, he would probably have been free under bail from the day of his arrest to the time of his trial.

Granting and insisting that malefactors should be punished to the extent of the law, it seems, nevertheless, that additional safeguards are needed to protect the friendless who have the misfortune to become involved in the legal machinery.

To avoid long imprisonment of men who may later be acquitted, it might be well to give preference on court calendars to persons who are entitled to bail but who are unable to get it.

Under present conditions a man is often held under lock and key while more fortunate people, though perhaps accused of more serious offenses, are at liberty under bond.

Men who believe in their own innocence are all eager, naturally, for prompt trial and acquittal, but it seems that less hardship would result if those who are confined in default of bond were brought to trial before the others.

Those who have bodily liberty can better bear the mental handicap of an impending trial, and so might well be left to wait while the friendless, literally punished in advance of trial, are given a chance to prove their innocence and win their freedom.

Policeman's Bullet Halts Speeding Negro Autoist

Y C TELEGRAM
MAY 21, 1921

Edward Bolling, a negro, thirty-five years od, of No. 169 West 134th street, was locked up at the West 152d street station on a charge of driving an automobile on Amsterdam avenue at about forty-five miles n hour. Bolling, it is alleged, ignored the command of Policeman Hummers, of the West 152d street station, to halt as he was driving south on Amsterdam avenue, at 148th street. The policeman commandeered a taxicab and started in pursuit at the same time blowing his whistele. The whistle ttracted the attention of Policeman Cummings, of the same station, who brought bolling to a halt at 145th street by stepping in front of the approaching automobile and firing a shot over his head.

25 YEARS TO LIFE FOR NEGRO POWELL WHO ATTACKED GIRL

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
AUGUST 11, 1921

Miss Weinstein's Assailant Sent to Sing Sing and Police Commended.

Judge William R. Bayes in County Court today imposed a sentence of between 25 years and life in Sing Sing on Roy Powell, 32, a negro, of 69 Landscape ave., Yonkers, convicted here of burglary in the first degree. Powell, at midnight of June 14 last, entered the room of Miss Anna Weinstein, a teacher in P. S. 156, at 683 Eastern Parkway, attacked her in bed and when she repulsed him struck her over the head with a bludgeon, inflicting severe wounds. He escaped but was later arrested, from a description furnished the police by his victim. Miss Weinstein had 12 stitches taken in her scalp, and physicians attending on her do not expect her ever entirely to recover.

Powell was apprehended by Detectives McLaughlin, Fennelly and Seckinger. He made a written cofession to the District Attorney, giving in detail an account of how he made the attack on Miss Weinstein. Later he repudiated this and was convicted on trial. An investigation showed that he had a criminal record, and that he had on several previous occasions attacked women and girls.

Before sentence was passed both Judge Bayes and District Attorney Harry E. Lewis expressed their horror of the crime involved.

Judge Bayes commended the District Attorney and the three detectives for the promptness with which Powell was apprehended and brought to trial. He also credited the negro's attorney, Edward J. Reilly, with having handled his case adequately.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 17

Crime — 1921.

North Carolina

CHAIN GANG CONDITIONS CONSIDERED OUTRAGEOUS

Prisoners Alleged to Have Been Brutally Treated

Norfolk Journal & Guide 4/2/21

Elizabeth City, N. C.—Following a grand jury investigation into charges of mismanagement and alleged brutality toward prisoners of the Pasquotank county chain gang, a true bill against Superintendent J. E. Provo, charging assault, was brought in Superior Court here this week. The report further indicated that conditions at the chain gang camp are in need of correction, and that sweeping reforms in the system of management are urgently needed.

The grand jury investigation of the chain gang was the outcome of tales of brutal treatment toward prisoners which have been brought to Judge O. H. Allen, presiding over the March term of Superior Court at Elizabeth City, now in session. The judge began to credit these reports when three prisoners about to receive sentence petitioned the judge to send them to the State penitentiary at Raleigh instead of to the chain gang, declaring that prisoners were better treated at the State prison.

LIQUOR CHARGE GETS NEGRO ROAD SENTENCE

Nixon Moore Hauled Quantity and, Besides Getting Term, Loses Horse

WILMINGTON N C STAR
MARCH 22, 1921

Nixon Moore, negro, charged with violating the prohibition law, was yesterday sentenced to serve a term of six months on the county roads by Recorder George Harriss and the horse and cart used in the transportation was ordered confiscated and sold according to the dry laws of the state. Notice of an appeal was filed and bond in the sum of $500 was named. Poke Moore, father of Nixon, was adjudged not guilty, the case against him being dismissed.

Other cases heard during the session, of such length that a short while of the afternoon was used, were:

Jason Capot, larceny, continued until this morning.

Lizzie Hayes, violating the health ordinance, continued until Saturday morning.

Mrs. L. Gundy, reckless driving, prayer for judgment continued on payment of the costs.

Mary Burney, Maggie Blue and Lillie Williams, immoral conduct, continued until Saturday morning.

John Martin and Bell Malone, violating the prohibition laws, continued until today.

Joe Bethea, violating the state motor laws, $10 and the costs.

Sam Canty, recklessly riding a bicycle, costs.

Ennis Futch, operating an automobile while intoxicated, $50 and the costs and license to drive suspended for six months.

Henry Hill, assault with a deadly weapon, continued until this morning.

Florence Hill, operating a disorderly house, continued until March 29.

O. L. Garrison, larceny, continued to Wednesday morning.

William Batson, disorderly conduct, waived appearance and judgment suspended upon the payment of the costs.

WILMINGTON N C STAR
MARCH 23, 1921

MARRYING NEGRO IS SENTENCED TO ROADS

W. P. Moore Gets 18 Months for Bigamy and Six for Forgery. Judge Raises One Sentence

"That woman told me she was going to be a louse in my collar as long as I lived and I believe it," stated W. P. Moore, negro preacher, when on the stand in superior court yesterday morning, where he was being tried under a charge of bigamy. The former leader of a Wilmington flock had taken the stand after the two wives, local and foreign, had testified, and he stated he wanted to make clear all points at issue. He did, adding something to the weight of evidence against him when he stated that he had been sued for non-support by the wife residing in Florida. She had neglected to mention that fact. Moore drew a sentence of 18 months on the county roads following conviction under the charge.

The convicted bigamist has been somewhat of a traveler. He told of serving charges in Florida and at various points in the north. He seemed well acquainted with New Jersey and Pennsylvania and Judge Kerr ejaculated: "You were not born in the north, were you" "No, sir; in Burgaw," was the answer.

The ex-preacher, who based his defense on the fact that he suffered queer "spells in his head" every month, will really serve two years on the roads of New Hanover county, since he received a sentence of six months on the roads when he was adjudged guilty in a case charging forgery. This sentence will begin automatically at the expiration of the longer term for bigamy. As regards the spells, Judke Kerr advised him that work would probably do much toward curing them.

W. H. Newkirk, negro, who received a sentence of 12 months from Recorder George Harriss, and who appealed, found that he drew marked interest for his efforts. The negro was charged with transporting intoxicating liquor and was sentenced to serve one year on the roads in the county court; but yesterday morning, when the verdict of guilty was again rendered, Judge Kerr lost no time in giving the negro two years on the roads.

1708 Raleigh. N C. Times.
MARCH 26. 1921

Little Negro Gets Whipping For Stealing Fruit

After enjoying a banana feast at the expense of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, Fred Green, 11-year-old negro, who says he works at the Y. M. C. A., Saturday heard Judge Harris prescribe a severe whipping as his punishment for stealing the fruit from a freight car. The judge sent an officer for the boy's mother and he was given a sound thrashing in the presence of Chief Glenn. The little negro has been giving the police trouble at nights and ahs formed a habit of sleeping in the postoffice and other public places.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime – 1921.

Ohio.

ARREST 55 MORE NEGROES

YOUNGSTOWN O VINDICATO
JANUARY 7, 1921

Police Continue Roundup in Effort to Rid City of Undesirables

In the second day of the cleanup of undesirables within the city limits 55 arrests were made for all causes, 42 of which were for suspicion, and these are held for investigation. Many nationalities were represented, including several Mexicans who were found in a West End pool room and are known not to be working.

With Thursday's arrests the total has reached 143 suspects in the two days that the crusade has been on. Of the 88 arrested Wednesday 41 were fined, and of these 28 were also given jail sentences. According to Chief James Watkins the cleanup is to be continued indefinitely.

"I am more in favor of preventing crime than in attempting to discover the guilty man after the crime has been committed," said the chief this morning, "and I believe that the best way to prevent crime is to put the criminal where he can't do any harm."

None of the suspects were able to settle the fines imposed and all were taken to county jail at 10 a. m. today. The entire traffic squad was pressed into service in addition to the regular turnkeys and the gang presented a motley appearance as they were escorted from city prison to the county bastile. This is the largest number of prisoners known to be lodged in county jail following sentence in police court in any one day.

NEGROES HELD ON SUSPICION PLEAD GUILTY IN COURT

MASSILON O EVE INDEPEND
MARCH 4, 1921

Alleged To Have Been Implicated In Petty Burglaries Here — Sentenced To Jail Pending Further Investigation.

William Jones and Clarence Van Nostin, both colored, arrested Thursday by Chief of Police Dommer on charges of suspicion following their alleged implication in a number of petty burglaries in this city during the last few months, were arraigned before Judge Kaley in Municipal Court today. The men pleaded guilty to charges of suspicion and were sentenced to jail pending further investigation of their cases.

Chief Dommer said today that neither of the men had openly admitted to being implicated in any robberies but it is alleged they tried to dispose of several cartons of cigarettes and a quantity of cigars, which it is thought were stolen from a local store.

John Papamihail, a Greek, arrested Tuesday evening after a cutting scrape in West Tremont street, near Canal street, in which one man was sent to the city hospital with a lacerated nose and side, also was arraigned today on a charge of suspicion.

Papamihail, who police say, was near the scene of the fracas, pleaded not guilty, but was found guilty by Judge Kaley after a trial. He was fined $50 and costs and sentenced to 30 days in jail. Police have not been able to locate one of the men implicated in the cutting scrape.

TOLEDO OHIO BLADE
APRIL 6, 1921

JOHNSON GETS 5 YEARS—FINE

Dr. Philip M. Johnson, negro, was sentenced to the Atlanta federal prison for five years and also was fined $3,000 and costs by Judge Killits Wednesday noon.

With Melvin Lester, negro, the physician conspired to violate the narcotic drug law. The judge granted a stay of execution of 60 days.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

Crime – 1921.

Oregan.

BLAME FOR THIRD DEGREE METHODS FIXED ON NO ONE

PENDLETON ORE OREGONIAN
JANUARY 8, 1921

After Hearing 25 Witnesses Grand Jury Finds No Cause of Action Against Any Party Under Investigation.

JOE KERLEY IS INDICTED ON EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGE

Four Other True Bills Returned Against Men Accused of Local Offenses; Forger is Given Three Year Term.

Twenty-five witnesses called to testify regarding alleged third degree practices in the county jail on the night of July 31 failed to satisfy the Umatilla county grand jury that any person was responsible for any such actions and the jury last evening handed its report to Circuit Judge G. W. Phelps declaring that "we fail to find sufficient evidence to warrant further action."

No person connected with the pursuit, capture, or punishment of the murderers of Sheriff Til Taylor was identified as having administered ammonia to any of the fugitives, District Attorney R. I. Keator said today. Although 25 persons were called as witnesses, they gave 25 different stories, he said, and the jury decided, after hearing them and going through a long transcript of testimony at the trial, that the finger of blame could not be pointed at anyone. Neither were the charges sustained in the sight of the investigators nor were persons frequently accused identified by any witnesses.

The jury, in addition to its report on this investigation, turned in five additional true bills. Joe Kerley was indicted for embezzlement of $6500 in notes, the property of W. E. Hanscom. Earl Allen, colored, William McGee, charged with robbery from the Peoples Warehouse, were among others in custody against whom indictments were returned. Others indicted have not been apprehended.

James M. Coplen, aged forger, who was among those indicted early yesterday, was arraigned, waived time in which to plead, said he was guilty and received a sentence of two years in prison late yesterday. Judge Phelps called 10 men before him for arraignment and they were to be sentenced at 1:30 today.

Coplen asked for clemency because he is aged and infirm. The judge said he would recommend his case to the parole board. He thanked the court after sentence was pronounced. A brother, J. D. Coplen, a millionaire oil man of Los Angeles and Arizona, refuses to come to his wayward brother's assistance. Coplen has served time previously for obtaining money by false pretenses.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime — 1921.

PHILADELPHIA PA. N. AMER.
MARCH 13, 1921

Woman Gets Five Years

Lonnie O'Neill, negro bandit, North Hutchinson street above Poplar, convicted yesterday of holding up Rebecca and Anna Levy in their drugstore at Eighth and Poplar streets, was sentenced to from five to seven years in the penitentiary by Judge Shull in quarter sessions court.

McKEESPORT PA NEWS
MARCH 16, 1921

Cassidy Leaves The Hospital Yesterday

Peter Cassidy, motorcycle policeman, who was injured in a fight with Ben Liles, colored, on Saturday night, was able to leave the hospital yesterday afternoon. Cassidy has not resumed work and no announcement of his future status as a member of the police department has been made by Mayor Lysle.

COLORED GIRL RAPED BY WHITE MEN

Herald - Commonwealth 3/23/21

Eight White Men Drag Colored Girl Into Cellar And Commit Rape

Philadelphia, March 12.—Mrs. Annie Weston, of South 22nd street, came a few days ago to Dr. R. R. Wright, president of the Colored Protective Association, with one of the most revolting stories ever brought to the attention of this association. Not even the story of the young woman who was asseulted in the United States Government employment office two years ago was equal to this story. Mrs. Weston was accompanied by her pastor, Rev. Patterson, pastor of Davis A. M. E. Z. Church. She alleged that she was passing down the street at the corner of 7th and Latona street when a young white man approached her and asked her if she desired to have a position. Looking for work and her husband being out of work she said yes. She was invited to go into a club house. It was about 10 o'clock in the morning and was told to sweep out the room. After she had finished sweeping the room she was told to scrub it out. She said she went back to get some water and was sent down into the basement. She went down into the basement for the water and as she turned her back a young white man caught her and threw her down and another rushed and held her, and seven or eight men rushed down and each took his turn to take criminal advantage of her. She was left lying there helpless and almost unconscious. When she recovered herself after about an hour she went out. No one came near her, although she screamed to the top of her voice. In a weak and hysterical condition she got out on the street and found a policeman and told him of the incident. No one was arrested. Then she came to the Colored Protective Association which got one of its lawyers, Mr. John W. Parks, to represent the cast, which was taken to the grand jury and the grand jury found a true bill against the two men who were held on two thousand dollar bail. The others who took part have not yet been found. An effort is being made to get them so that they may be summarily reported.

NEGRO GETS SEVEN YEARS FOR HOLD-UP

Demanded Whisky From Druggist and Flashed Revolver to Back Request

War Record of West Chester Man Counterbalanced by Police Charges Jails Him

PHILADELPHIA PA INQUIRER
APRIL 13, 1921

A demand for whisky in a drug store, emphasized by a loaded revolver, and followed by an attempted hold-up of the store two weeks later, proved the undoing of Lonnie O'Neill, a negro, of 944 North Hutchinson street, who was yesterday sentenced to from five to seven years in the Eastern Penitentiary.

O'Neill was recognized by Miss Rebecca Levy, the proprietress, of Eighth and Poplar streets, while she was on a street car a few days ago. She screamed and demanded that he be arrested. On his own behalf O'Neill counter-charged that he had been purchasing whisky from Miss Levy since last fall, and because he left the store without paying for a quart in January, she made up the charge of robbery against him, he declared. Judge Shull, in Room 453, sentenced the negroe

Pennsylvania

after testimony from Detective Gomborow, who investigated the case.

After a war record had been produced to secure leniency from the court in case of Allen N. Dunlap, of West Chester, who pleaded guilty to stealing a dress yesterday, a police record was introduced which more than counter-balanced the service record in the eyes of Judge Shull. Dunlap said he was in the Fifth Division and had been gassed in France. He admitted having taken the dress, valued at $18, from a Market street store, but said he had been out of work and drinking.

Judge Shull at first deferred sentence, but upon learning that Dunlap had been arrested on two other charges which were not pressed, Dunlap was given six months in County Prison. A woman extravagantly dressed, saying she was his sister, asked for his release, and swooned when sentence was imposed.

Eugene Chute, of Tenth and Mt. Vernon streets, was sentenced to one year in the County Prison by Judge Shull after he pleaded guilty to entering the home of Harry Hause, of 2867 North Darien street, with intention to steal. He was caught in the house on March 25. He also admitted being a drug user, telling the court that he purchased his dope on Vine street for $2 a deck.

Convicted of slashing his sweetheart with a knife when he found her with another man, Joseph James, a negro, of 1622 North Alder street, was given 18 months in the County Prison by Judge Shull.

Harry Jones, who was captured by Director Cortelyou's chauffeur Officer Schultz, after a chase from the store of Katie Abramson, at 2133 South Tenth street, on April 2, was sentenced to 18 months in County Prison yesterday.

Judge Shull also pronounced a sentence of two to three years in the Eastern Penitentiary upon Frank Smith on a larceny charge His co-defendant, Albert Berger, was given 18 months. The men had been accused of stealing coats from an automobile at Tenth and Market streets on April 1. Both admitted previous police records.

Pearl Boggett, a negress, of 3645 Market street, was given six months in the County Prison for having stolen clothing from her former employer, Mrs. Andrew Robinson, of 1027 Marlyn road. Mrs. Robinson had discharged the girl for impudence, she said, and, upon suspecting she was taking away clothing, searched her grip and discovered two camisoles, a pair of slippers, stockings and aprons, which the girl alleged had been thrown away as useless by Mrs. Robinson.

PHILADELPHIA PA INQUIRER
APRIL 23, 1921

Colored Shoplifter Gets 6 Months

Adeline Jones, colored, of 431 Fulton street, was convicted of a charge of stealing a $35 dress from a Market street store on April 11, and was sentenced in Quarter Sessions Court by Judge Shull to six months in the county prison.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime—1921.

Rhode Island.

WOMEN CONVICTS FROM MARYLAND IN PRISON HERE

PROVIDENCE R I BULLETIN
MAY 27, 1921

Convicted in the city of Washington for crimes ranging from grand larceny to second degree murder, and given penitentiary sentences ranging from 18 months to 20 years, 21 women prisoners, 21 of whom are colored, were transferred today from the Maryland State Prison at Baltimore to the House of Correction at Howard, where they will complete their terms.

The prisoners, all sentenced by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, first were ordered to serve their terms in the Maryland State penitentiary. Durin gthe past State election in Maryland a political scandal was stirred up as to the treatment of both State and Federal prisoners confined in that institution. The result was the United Government ordered the removal of its prisoners from that penitentiary. Women prisoners confined there for the Government are being transferred to houses of corrections in different parts of the country, while the Federal men prisoners there went transferred to Government prisons in Atlanta and Fort Leavenworth.

Last night United States Marshal William W. Stocknam of Baltimore swore in three women deputies to accompany the prisoners. The three women deputies making the trip to Providence were: Miss Rose A. Duffy, Mrs. William A. Otto and Mrs. Mary H. Janes. The marshal also had as guards for the prisoners Deputy United States Marshals L. J. Stallo and James Haynes, Police Detective Matthew Dunn, Patrolman George F. Myers, Police Sergeant Henry H. Lierneman and Patrolman Francis J. Vojik.

The prisoners reached Providence on the Federal Express, arriving at 7:45 o'clock this morning. United States Marshal John J. Richards met the prisoners at the station, and made arrangements for a special electric car for the trip to State's Prison. When the prisoners were asked at the station if they wanted anything to eat, drink or smoke before being taken to the House of Correction 15 of the colored women amazed the guarding party by ordering cigars, which they smoked with a relish.

"Boss, I sho hopes its cooler up here dan down in Baltimore," declared Margaret Budd, colored, who is serving 20 years for second degree murder.

Marshal Stocgnam declared upon his arrival that no trouble was experienced with the prisoners on the long ride from Baltimore to Providence. "They were given a good send-off at the Maryland State Penitentiary, the prison band playing "'Till We Meet Again" and other appropriate airs as they filed out of the institution grounds," the marshal said this morning.

"I brought three women deputies along," the Marshal declared. "I believe that now that the women folk have won their fight for the ballot, they are entitled to some consideration in the enforcement of law and order, so I picked out three Baltimore women, deputized them and brought them along to look out for the interests of the prisoners," concluded the Marshal.

One of the white women prisoners, May King, was given five years for selling narcotic drugs.

The 25 prisoners were: Gladys Marine Weber, white, 15 years; May King, white, 5 years; Mary Hansbury, white, 10 years; Rose Jodan white, 2 years; ertha anley, 4 years; Lillie Jordan, 15 years; Elizabeth Matthews Jones, 18 months; Virginia Johnson, 10 years; Maggie Johnson, 3 years; Bessie Jackson, 10 years; Rosetta Holmes, 10 years; Annie Frye, 4 years; Annie Davis, 4 years; Rose Burlidge, 5 years; Margaret Budd, 20 years; Rose Brent, 6 years; Mary Bolden, 10 years; Lillian Bowie, 2 years; Annie Payne, 10 years; Victoria Lancaster, 10 years; Hattie Walker, 10 years! Lula Tyler, 2 years; Francis Tyler, 10 years; Annie Taylor, 4 years, and Ethel Smith, 10 years, all colored.

Gladys Weber, one of the white women prisoners, was given 15 years for stealing $100 from a soldier, although her people made good the $100. In giving her such a long sentence the District of Columbia Federal court declared that it was necessary for the court to deal firmly with thieves as the city of Washington was suffering from a crime wave that had to be checked. Hattie Walker, colored, got 10 years for unlawfully receiving jewelry which had been stolen.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

South Carolina

Crime — 1921.

GREENVILLE S C NEWS
MAY 31, 1921

STORE IS ROBBED; NEGRO IS JAILED

Police Catch Yancy Young, Charged With Burglarizing Perry's Store.

Following the robbery shortly after midnight Sunday night of Perry's grocery store, corner of Augusta and Elkin streets, the city police yesterday morning arrested Yancy Young, negro about 20 years or age, charging him with robbery. Because the charge amounts to grand larceny, Young was turned over to the sheriff and placed in the county jail.

Young's arrest was made on Sullivan alley, not far from Augusta street, where the robbery occurred. When jailed, it was found that Young is the same man for whom the police had been searching in connection with disorder of recent date, as a result of which he is charged with disorderly conduct.

From the grocery store, two sacks of flour, several boxes of sardines, a dozen packages of cigarettes, a cake, a box of cigars and other items were missed. A good portion of these goods were recovered when the arrest was made by the police.

NEGRO WOMAN ON TRIAL FOR MURDER

Arguments Were Completed This Morning and Defendant Will Know Her Fate by This Afternoon.

SPARTANBURG S C JOURNAL
JUNE 14, 1921

Malinda Brown, charged with killing her husband, Henderson Brown, was placed on trial in the court of sessions this morning. The case against Frank Jenkins, co-defendant was nol prossed. The arguments were completed just before [illegible] ment for dinner, and the ju[illegible] structed to bring in a se[illegible] dict, should the jury agree [illegible] court re-convened for the afternoon session.

This is the case of the negro who was killed in a corn field Saturday before Christmas on a farm east of the city, and his body was found in April. The testimony was circumstancial, but a strong case was made against the defendant. Joseph Wrightson and John D. Hamer, appointed by the court, ably defended the woman.

Pleas of Guilty.

Ben Lawson entered a plea of guilty to violating the prohibition law and a sentence of six months and a fine of $500. Upon the payment of $100 the remainder of the sentence is suspended. High Show, indicted with him, had his case nol prossed.

John Joyner, alias Jerry Joyner housebreaking and larceny, was given 18 months on the chaingang upon his pleading guilty.

Luther Tucker was tried in his absence for violating the prohibition law, and a sealed sentence awaits him.

R. C. Stallings, R. E. Stallings and Homer Morgan, were tried for violation of the prohibition law, and a verdict of not guilty, rendered.

W. M. Bishop, violating the prohibition law, entered a plea of guilty, and sentenced to 10 months and $700. Upon payment of $200 the remainder of the sentence is suspended.

The case against Leland Steading, charged with larceny, was nol prossed.

William Howard, violation of prohibition law, was tried in his absence and a sealed sentence awits him.

Five Years at Hard Labor.

Walter Wilburn was tried on a charge of assault and battery with intent to kill, and a verdict of guilty of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature was found. He was sentenced to five years at hard labor.

Clarence Hortan, violating the prohibition laws was given a sentence of six months and $500, all but $200 of the sentence being suspended during good behavior.

City Recorder Sustained.

An appeal was taken from the recorder's court in the case of Mrs. W. S. Conner, Margaret Attaway and Louise Rabon, convicted of vagrancy. The court sustained the finding of the recorder's court, but ordered that upon the payment of $50 each, or the serving of 15 days in prison, the defendants be released on their good behavior, with the remainder of the sentence suspended.

B. B. Sloan was given a sentence of six months and $50 0for violating the prohibition law, and all but $300 of the sentence suspended during good behavior.

Some True Bills.

The following true bills have been returned by the grand jury:

John Henry Ferguson, Troy Ferguson and Roosevelt Hodges, assault nad battery with intent to kill.

John Joyner, alias Jerry Joyner housebreaking and larceny.

Luther Kirby, larceny of live Stock.

Luther Tucker. violation prohibition law.

Walter Wilburn, assault and battery with intent to kill.

Brooks Thomas, desertion and non-support.

R. C. Stallings, R. E. Stallings and Homer Morgan, violation of prohibition law.

Claude Waters, violation of prohibition law.

Sam Wyatt, disposing of property under lien.

Will Miller, housebreaking an[illegible] larceny.

Johnnie Hughes, assault and battery with intent to kill and carrying concealed weapons.

Will Walker, violating prohibition law.

Ben Lawson and High Shaw, violation prohibition law.

Haywood Cathcart, maliciously killing a dog.

Pet Bishop, larceny.

C. C. Henderson, violation prohibition law.

C. B. Sullivan, violation prohibition law.

John Henry Ferguson, assault and battery with intent to kill.

Warrion Littlejohn, bastardy.

Sam Rudisal, violation prohibition law.

E. L. Warren, assault and battery with intent to kill and carrying concealed weapon.

E. L. Warren, pointing pistol at person.

Marion Crocker, assault and battery with intent to kill.

Will Jones, larceny of live stock.

John Nesbitt, obtaining goods by [illegible]sfal pretense.

John Davis, disposing of property under lien.

Henry Allison, housebreaking and larceny.

newyorkpap 7/31/2

The Columbia, S. C., *Light* indulges in the following outburst against a prevalent practice in South Carolina and other parts of the South:

Why young Negroes or whites would want to stalk around on the farm and in the streets with pistols in their pockets is a mystery. It's cowardly and shows a murderous heart against mankind in general. The Legislature should make the penalty six months on the gang for every man caught carrying a pistol without license and against the law.

Much of the homicidal tendencies common among all classes in the South is due to this practice of "toting a gun." The effect of the Sullivan law in New York State seems to be the restriction of carrying weapons to the professional gunmen and law-breakers. Whether the penalty the South Carolina editor calls for would improve conditions in his State is doubtful.

GREENVILLE S. C. NEWS
AUGUST 25, 1921

PISTOL-TOTING IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

IN view of the fact that the Greenville county grand jury is in session this week, it is timely and pertinent that The News call attention to at least one thing that this body should refer to in its recommendations, and that is the unlawful carrying of pistols in South Carolina. Perhaps the law is no more lax in South Carolina than it is in other states relative to pistol "toting" but this is no reason why this state should not take steps to remedy the conditions that prevail within her borders.

There is a law in South Carolina that forbids the carrying of deadly weapons except under certain conditions as stipulated in the law, but this law is being openly violated in every nook and crook of the commonwealth, and there seems to be very little effort made to enforce the law or to punish those found guilty of violating it. This is a sad reflection upon those empowered with the law's enforcement, but facts are facts, and there are times when they need to be referred to in unmistakable terms. There is no gain saying the fact that our officers are not doing their duty in this respect, and this being the case, the laws should be so framed and enacted that they would be compelled to do so, else give way to those who would.

Nine-tenths of the murders or killings, express it as you will, that occur in this state can be traced to the handy pistol. It is a rare thing to hear of a kililng in which the pistol or gun did not play its part. There are those who do not violate the law, but these don't always get along amicably with their fellow man. In other words, they sometimes get into difficulties, frequently having them forced upon them by the bully who always has in his pocket what he terms his trusty friend. Thus it is that the law-abiding man is put at the mercy of the bully and his life is sacrificed through the lameness of the law, or maybe its lack of enforcement.

The Greenville Advocate, published in Butler county, Alabama, recently carried the following forceful article about the situation in that state, and which in the main compares very intimately with the conditions that prevail in this. The article says:

> In the opinion of many Butler county people the unlawful practice of carrying pistols causes more murders than "shinney," and careful survey of the murder cases tried in the last several years will bear out their contention.
>
> Moonshine liquor, it is generally understood, causes many of the murders in Butler county, as the stump juice being manufactured here is, to a large extent, a poison which robs a man of his faculties. However, a man drunk on "shinney" could not shoot another if he did not have a pistol on his person.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 13

The number of murders in Butler is appalling. Murder cases almost predominate on every docket in circuit court, yet it is a known fact that many of the killings would not take place if the murderer did not happen to have a pistol in his possession at the time of his anger.

Give a man a pistol and a few drinks of rum, and call the coroner. Give him the pistol without the rum, and he is still unsafe. Give him the rum without the pistol and he is a menace. Give him neither and clear the court docket of murder cases.

If the state of Alabama would frame laws which would send a man to the pen for at least twelve months for the unlawful carrying of concealed weapons, murder cases would be the exception instead of the rule in the state.

So much for Butler county, "and," asks the Birmingham News, "how about Jefferson county which has, for sometime past been averaging a homicide a day? In the main these deaths may be traced to concealed weapons." It isn't altogether improbable that seven-tenths of the killings are traceable to the carrying of concealed weapons. It isn't often that one shoots another to death with a weapon other than a pistol which he has been carrying concealed in his pocket, and it isn't often that one cuts another to death; at any rate not so often as the shooting to death of another with a pistol. Further than this, men, as a rule, do not carry pistols except in violation of law. Once in a while one can be seen carrying a pistol in the open, but these cases are few and far between. The Birmingham News continues the discussion as follows:

It is all very well to argue, as some do, that by making the law more drastic people who carry pistols for self-defense will leave their guns at home, and thus be at the mercy of the thug and the hoodlum; but if the chaingangs are filled with pistol-toters serving a year maximum, that diversion will take a tremendous slump in popularity, both with those individuals who are carrying a chip on their shoulder and a gun on their hip, looking for the attack, or the insult, or the opportunity to use the gun, and the negro thug or loafer, who is seven times out of ten, the officers say, is a potential murderer because he has a gun concealed and either loses his nerve at the last minutes or the officers get the drop on him.

The whole matter resolves itself into the fact that if men did not carry guns they could not shoot other men on the slightest provocation. If they were to be given terms on the chaingang every time they were caught with a pistol concealed on their person in violation of the law they would not be carrying pistols. And there you are.

Pistol carrying, that is illegal pistol carrying, is one of the greatest menaces that confront the people of today; it is a very serious matter, and one that should occupy the minds and attention of all thoughtful people. The problem is of course a very knotty one and difficult of solution, but to our way of thinking the best thing to do would be enact a law that would carry with it the unequivocal penalty of a sentence on the chaingang or the penitentiary.

Gentlemen of the grand jury, you have before you an opportunity for great service to your people. Take the initiative in this matter and recommend in vigorous terms the enactment of a law that would meet the conditions as they exist here in your state. If from your recommendations there should come sucr a law, then you will have become benefactors to the human race and in the days to come you will be spoken of as men who had the courage to see your duty and do it.

WAS THIS MAN GUILTY?

A special dispatch to the Charlestonfurther reprieve or commutation of sen-
News and Courier dated at Columbia,tence does not appear, but the facts pre-
gave an account of the electrocution ofsented on the surface would indicate
Harvey Whaley, a Fairmount county Ne-that but little pains were taken to save
gro, who was convicted of being acces-this unfortunate from paying the pen-
sory to the murder of Earl Wadford,alty for a crime of which he may have
at Lone Star, some months ago. Whaley been guiltless.
went to his death protesting his inno- It seems to have been a case in which
cence, in which he was supported by thea white man was killed. One Negro ma
last statement of his alleged partner inpaid for the killing with his life. But
the crime, Feetie Fogle, who was exe-that was not enough to satisfy the de-
cuted last Spring.

This statement prompted the Gover-
or to grant a reprieve to Walley, but
after what was styled a prolonged and
expensive investigation, it was announced that the executive had reached the
conclusion that Whaley was guilty and
he refused to interfere further with the
carrying out of the sentence. The con-
duct of the prisoner after his doom was
thus sealed continued to carry out the
idea of his innocence.

According to this dispatch, he went
to the electric chair chanting a Negro
melody. As the cap was adjusted, he
was reported as saying: "White folks
this feels like a rocking chair.' Later
on, when asked if he had anything
more to say, he made this response: 'I
am innocent, white folks, and I hope to
meet every one of you in Heaven.'

It is not an unheard of thing for a
convicted criminal to protest his inno-
cence to the bitter end, in the face of
the most convincing testimony as to his
guilt. But the manner in which Whaley
is reported to have conducted and ex-
pressed himself was such as to make it
almost impossible to believe that he was
acting a part. Then the confession of
the other man implicated in the killing
absolved Whaley from participation.

How full and how exhausive the in-
vestigation was made that determined

mands of South Carolina justice. In-
nocent or guilty, the other suspect must
sueffr the same sentence, despite the
doubts raised as to his responsibility.

The only wonder about the whole
business is that the two Negroes accused of the crime were not lynched at
once, instead of having been put through
the form of a judicial trial. The whole
case illustrates the official indifference
and disinclination to interfere when
only the life or liberty of a Negro is at
stake.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime - 1921.

Tennessee

Excouraging Situation Recalled By Close Observer And Student—Encouragement Offered.

Nashville Globe 2/4/21

So much has been said recently about the crime wave as it sweeps across the country that a close observer asked how Nashville stood and what the records would show with regard to the Nashville Negroes. The close observer of incidents is forced to admit that the Negroes of Nashville and Davidson County have contributed practically nothing to the crime wave, but it is said by those who have been close students of events that this is due to the religious influence and educational training along the various lines that the Negroes have undergone in this city, which leads in the religious, educational and industrial activities of the population south of the Ohio and Potomac rivers and east of the Mississippi. It is said that while the daily papers of the South fairly burn with startling stories of crime and criminals, only here and there can a Negro be even accused of contributing much toward the crime wave, and when thus accused, it has proven, when traced down, that it was only a suspect; and that where confessions have been made it has been due to the humiliating conditions and the excruciating pains resulting from punishment inflicted by so-called officers of the law in some of the cities, after they have taken the accused Negro and carried him through what is termed the "third degree," but which in reality is nothing but the worst beating, clubbing, cuffing and maiming that can be administered to a human being. Then, too, the admission is made that whenever a Negro boy who happens to be over fourteen years old is accused of a crime, he is usually known and styled in the paper as "ruffian;" but on the other hand, members of another race who commit a crime, if they are not over thirty are styled as "unfortunate youths." But in spite of these facts it seems to develop that the criminal record, insofar as it has effected the Negro in the recent crime wave, has shown him to be the most law-abiding of all the great cosmopolitan make-up in Nashville, the capital of Tennessee.

Five Arrested As Lifeless Body Of Man Is Found

Robbery Believed Motive for Crime Discovered Under Coal Chute.

Constitution 6/23/21

Knoxville, Tenn., June 22.—A special dispatch to The Journal and Tribune from Cumberland Gap says that four white men and a white woman have been arrested and are held in jail there in connection with the killing last night of an unidentified white man whose lifeless body was found under some timbers near a coal chute this morning. Late tonight the streets are crowded with people from the surrounding section. Much excitement prevails and there is talk of lynching the suspects although officers claim they have the situation under control.

Officers refuse to announce the names of the suspects pending a more complete investigation.

The body of the slain man apparently had been thrust hurriedly under the coal chute after the slayer or slayers had robbed him. Five bullet holes in the head of the young man showed the manner of his death. He wore a suit of clothes under a pair of overalls. A tailor's tag in the coat indicated that the man's name was A. C. Sasser and that the suit had been purchased at Lynch, Ky. In addition to the suspects detained at Cumberland Gap Knoxville policemen have been requested to look out for two negroes who may have had a hand in the killing.

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Crime - 1921.

THAT FATAL CRAP GAME RAID

Houston Informer 2/19/21

This community has worked itself into a frenzy over the killing of a white youth by police officers in a crap game raid last week and the white press and city officials have taken a commendable stand in the matter.

All officers participating in the raid were suspended from the police force and the officer believed to have fired the fatal shot was arrested and released under heavy bail.

The Informer does not desire membership in the "I-told-you-so" club, but when it is borne in mind how colored crap shooters are arrested, beat up, shot at and, in the past, often killed, it was not surprising to those conversant with local conditions to see the shoe pinching the other foot.

The Informer is not rejoicing nor gloating over the untimely death of the white youth, but it merely calls attention to the fact that where practices are committed and condoned upon one part of the citizenry with impunity, the other part is not immune from such cruelties and impositions.

Our retiring chief of police did much to abolish the quick-gun play of police officers and the ruthless taking of human lives by these custodians of the law; but there is yet much room for improvement and it is hoped that this latest tragedy will crystallize public sentiment against such acts upon all citizens.

By way of digression, crap shooting is not the worst crime being perpetrated in this community by any odds, and if the same efforts were put forth by the police department to apprehend murderers, yeggmen, bandits, and our altogether too large colony of criminals, perhaps our maximum number of crimes could be reduced to a minimum, and the citizens of Houston breathe a sigh of relief.

Furthermore, while raiding crap games in the outskirts of the city, suppose a few of the big downtown poker games were peremptorily and unceremoniously raided and the principals arrested.

A crime is a crime, it matters not by whom committed, and the station or color of the criminal should have nothing to do with influencing the actions of the officers of the law.

There is where our chief trouble lies in the South. We have sufficient (yet, too many) laws on the statute books to handle all crimes, but the administration, enforcement and interpretation of the laws is where we fall down miserably and shamefully.

HOUSTON TEX POST
APRIL 14, 1921

NEGRO SENTENCED TO 32 YEARS ON 16 THEFT CHARGES

4 Other Negroes Convicted; White Man Given 5 Years For Forgery

Five pleas of guilty and two verdicts of guilty on pleas of not guilty netted a total sum of 65 years in the penitentiary Wednesday in the Harris county criminal district court.

One negro drew 32 years at the rate of two years each on 16 charges of burglary and felony theft. Milton Cooley, the 22-year-old negro who received the 32 years, pleaded guilty to having entered the dressing rooms at the Prince theater and burglarizing them of clothing.

Frank Daniels, another negro, received 14 years, two years on each of five burglary and two felony theft charges, to which he had entered pleas of guilty. Ruby Williams, negress, received a five-year suspended sentence on a charge of felony theft. Darnell White, blind negro preacher, who pleaded not guilty to a charge of assault to murder in connection with cutting his wife with a knife, was convicted and sentenced to five years. The five-year sentence was made a suspended sentence, with a $500 appearance bond. J. Barker, negro, was given two years on a verdict of guilty to a charge of forgery.

A. K. Veach, white, was given a five-year suspended sentence on a charge of forgery.

Texas.

HOUSTON TEX POST
JULY 20, 1921

Negroes Are Given 63 And 89 Years in Prison

Houston Young and Robert Reed, negroes, who some time ago confessed to the wholesale assault on suburban merchants and to passing forged checks, received terms of 63 and 89 years, respectively, in criminal district court Tuesday.

Young was given five years in each of five cases of robbery by assault and two years in each of 18 cases of forgery. He was charged with passing checks on a local construction company.

Reed was also given five years in each of five cases of robbery by assault and two years in each of 32 cases of forgery.

The two negroes usually picked Sunday as the day to enter the stores and slug their victims with a heavy piece of

TO TELL OF PRISON HORRORS AT ANTIOCH NEXT MONDAY NIGHT

Houston Informer 8/13/21

Andrew Railey, who was sent to the penitentiary from Dallas County, will tell of the atrocities and brutalities practiced upon colored prisoners at the Darrington Farm, near Sandy Point, Texas, at Antioch Baptist Church Monday night, September 5, 8 p. m.

Railey spent two years, ten months and twenty days at this prison camp and narrates many incidents of a most brutal and horrifying nature, and in his talk Monday night will recite these atrocities and brutalities.

He states that prisoners are beaten with "bats" fully seven feet long, the beatings often lasting from 30 to 60 minutes; that they are hanged with chains from 3 to 8 hours.

He states that Ed Crockett and another colored prisoner were killed in cold blood by the guards, the former meeting his death July 14, 1919; that Tolie Driver was forced to work in the field with a fever of 105 degrees; that divers other cruelties and barbarities were heapeed upon them at this farm.

He has a very interesting story, one that will touch the heartstrings of any real human being, and Houstonians will do well to hear a first-hand story of the cruel and barbaric treatment administered unto colored prisoners at this farm.

BARRON INCIDENT AT POLICE STATION.

The Houston Texas Informer 10/8/21

The Informer has watched very intently the efforts of a certain local white attorney (and he deserves a gold medal for his bravery and sense of justice) to secure redress for the brutal assault administered to Mr. Thomas L. Barron at the city jail by one of the desk sergeants.

Mr. Barron, who is one of the city's leading citizens and who pays thousands of dollars into the municipal coffers in the form of annual taxes (being a merchant and heavy property owner), went to the police station to get one of his cows which had been impounded.

When he failed to pull off his hat in record-breaking time, a procedure that those in charge of the city jail (and county, too) force upon the high and low, rich and poor of the colored race at said place, one of the officers of the law (let us pray!) struck him a terrific blow and laid him low.

This citizen and taxpayer, mind you, had committed no offense against society, unless being possessed with a dark skin rendered him a criminal.

And even granting that he had been a criminal, by what right or authority have those officers employed at the police station and paid by all the citizens of the municipality to brutally beat up, roughly manhandle and unwarrantably mistreat those who come under their charge at the police station?

For years some of the best men of the colored race—peaceful, law-abiding, taxpaying citizens— have been subjected to all kinds of indignities and insults at the local police station, when going there to bail out some person in the law's toll, secure license or otherwise transact necessary business with that department of the city government.

Despite these repeated mistreatments and injustices The Informer has never yet heard of a single officer even being reprimanded by the chief for such an offense, to say nothing of being arrested and suspended.

Unless a colored citizen, male or female, wishes to be insulted and humiliated, for God sake let them stay away from the local police station.

If a reputable, upstanding, reliable and substantial citizen of color like Mr. Barron is almost brutally murdered there for not doffing his hat at the immediate behest of the station cops, what must others of us expect to get?

The Informer has repeatedly called attention to this state of affairs at the police station, but a deaf ear has always been turned to our pleadings and suggestions.

On more than one occasion this paper has been accused of trying to fan the flames of racial antipathy and animosity, simply because

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it has had the backbone and hardihood to give publicity to brutal and cruel acts perpetrated upon our people by police officers and especially at the station.

There is practically no friction between the patrolmen and colored citizens, but the men at the police station seem to be obsessed with an idea that they are the people's bosses, when as a matter of fact they are the people's servants; and as such they should accord to every citizen his just and right dues.

The Informer regrets that the civil service commission is of the opinion that such matters are not within their jurisdiction; but on the other hand it hopes that the chief, to whom the matter has been submitted, will lose sight of the color of the citizen assaulted and battered and handle the matter without gloved hands.

The mayor and city commissioners, as well as the Harris County grand jury, will do well to investigate these repeated assaults and attacks upon colored citizens at the police station, simply because they are reluctant to pull off their hats at the station, when all other men have theirs on their heads.

The only trouble that has ever existed in this community between the two races was brought about by brutality and hard-boiled tactics of the local police department. That one incident did more to give Houston a black eye than all others combined throughout the life of the city.

Another thing about such attacks: If the colored citizen reports the matter the station officers deny the charge and if scars are left to tell of an assault, the colored man was always the aggressor or became unruly.

There is not one iota of truth to such depositions and statements, for no sensible colored man is going to buck against any such bunch, at least not at the police station, where all the odds are against him.

It is nothing but downright meanness and cussedness and the authorities will be using good judgment to put a stop to such deeds.

"Prisoner's Friend" to Help Tortured Negro

HOUSTON TEX PRESS
NOVEMBER 14, 1921—

George W. Dixon, lawyer and friend to prisoners, will personally appear before the Polk-co grand jury and ask for indictment of one deputy sheriff and two convict guards who beat Albert Mitchell, negro, almost to death. The negro was charged with theft.

Mitchell is the negro about whom The Houston Press gave an account Saturday and of the barbarity visited upon him by Polk-co officers. Mitchell's head and face were a mass of bruises, welts and gaping wounds. One tooth was kicked out and his ear was torn off.

"I will take the negro before the grand jury," said Dixon, "and if I do not succeed in that,' I will produce photographs of the wounds. I have never seen a human who was the victim of worse cruelty."

MAY APPEAL TO NEFF

Dixon says he will make a test case of Mitchell to determine if it is possible for a friendless convict to get a square deal in the penal institutions of Texas. If he doesn't find a remedy in Polk-co, he will appeal to Governor Neff.

Some of the reasons Attorney Dixon gives for seeking a remedy for Mitchell's case are:

Because the negro was made the victim of an ungovernable lust to torture.

DESERVES JUSTICE

Because a convict, altho shunned by society, has rights under the law and is to be protected from cruel punishment.

Because to have men in office anywhere in Texas who violate their oaths and rejoice in the pain of the helpless is a disgrace to the state and a mockery of civilization.

Because other prisoners, white and black, are subjected to the cruelty of being tied to trees and whipped with clubs and guns and having their teeth kicked out and their bodies maimed.

Dixon says someone must hear the wails from the gray walls and he has taken it upon himself to listen.

"The lowliest of our citizens must have justice," said Dixon. "Until this condition is brought about we cannot boast of a high order of civilization. Such crimes as were committed against this negro warrants indignation from the great majority of our good citizenship."

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Virginia.

PORTSMOUTH, VA STAR
MARCH 1, 1921

IS GIVEN YEAR ON ROADS FOR STEALING CAKE

John Dawson, a negro, pleaded guilty today in the Court of Hustings to a charge of breaking into the confectionery store of a Mrs. Altschul and stealing a cake valued at $1.50. The court sentenced him to serve a year on the State road force.

FIFTY EXTRA POLICE FAIL TO STOP CRIME

Constitution 3/16/21

Richmond, Va., March 15.—Despite that fifty special policemen were sworn in last night to help check the crime wave in Richmond, a number of robberies were reported this morning. Percy G. Minor, blind, a former policeman, fired several shots this morning at a burglar who was attempting to rob a house near the Minor home. The burglar escaped.

Contributions from all sections of the city have been added to the reward offered for the capture and conviction of the two negroes who broke into the home of a citizen last Saturday morning and attacked his wife while he lay ill in bed. Three additional suspects were reported under arrest this morning.

Eight Years Given Negroes

LYNCHBURG NEWS
MARCH 16, 1921

Convicted in Campbell County Circuit Court of Highway Robbery And Sentenced

BURFORD AGAIN CONVICTED

Get Additional Two Years in State Penitentiary for Car Robbery — White Boy Fined for Chesapeake & Ohio Car Robbery

John Arrington and Clarence Nelson, both colored, were convicted of highway robbery by a jury in the circuit court of Campbell county at Rustburg yesterday and their punishment was fixed at eight years each in the penitentiary. The defendants attempted to established an alibi, but were positively identified by Moses Calloway, colored, as the men who robbed him on Ward's road the night of January 29. Other witnesses testified that Arrington and Nelson were in that community at the time. Judge William R. Barksdale overruled a motion for new trial. H. C. Featherston and W. M. Murrell, of Lynchburg, representing the defendants, then gave notice of an appeal. Commonwealth's Attorney A. H. Light conducted the prosecution.

Oscar Burford, who was convicted Wednesday and given eight years in the penitentiary for maliciously shooting W. H. Dodson, was found guilty on a second charge yesterday morning and was given an additional two years in the penitentiary. The second charge alleged that he robbed a Norfolk and Western freight car at Lone Jack and stole household goods valued at $281 belonging to D. R. Pritchard. Judge Barksdale has not yet ruled on Burford's motion for a new trial on the charge of malicious shooting.

George Jenkins, a white boy, charged with the theft of goods from a car on the Chesapeake & Ohio railway, was found guilty by a jury which fixed his punishment at a fine of $5 and 30 days in jail. On motion of Royston Jester, counsel for the accused, Judge Barksdale suspended the jail sentence. Edward Pannil, a colored boy convicted of being implicated in the same theft, will be sent to the reform school.

Henry Wade, 14-year-old colored boy, was found guilty of the theft of a diamond ring valued at $350 from Mrs. Minnie L. Rowse, of Burton's Creek, and will be sent to the reform school.

BELIEVE HIM WHITE

Courier-Journal 3/19/21

Kinston, March 13.—Police Chief Lucas, of La Grange, is entertaining the theory advanced by others that Arthur E. Lamm, a policeman shot by an unidentified man there last month, was the victim of a white man disguised as a colored man.

NEGRO IS HANGED IN RICHMOND JAIL EARLY ON FRIDAY

Constitution 6/25

Richmond, Va., June 24.—William Turner, Alexandria negro convicted in the United States district court here of highway robbery and of murdering T. Morgan Moore, torpedo expert, more than a year ago, was hanged in the Henrico county jail yard here today. He made no statement before going to the scaffold.

More than 500 persons, mostly negroes, surrounded the jail just before the hanging, which was the first execution of the kind to take place in Virginia in thirteen years. Turner would have been electrocuted had his conviction been in a state court.

Moore, who was riding in an automobile with his fiancee, was shot after a scuffle with the negro and died within a few minutes, the slayer being also charged with dragging the young woman from the scene of the crime and stealing her jewelry.

SEARCH FOR NEGROES ABANDONED BY POSSE

Five Hobos Charged With Shooting Town Marshal Make Good Their Escape

PETERSBURG, July 29—Sheriff's posses and members of the Petersburg police force, after a search which lasted all this afternoon and covered practically every section of Surry county, tonight abandoned their efforts to locate five negro hoboes charged with having shot and probably fatally wounded Harry Harris, town marshal at Wakefield, early today.

Harris was shot when he attempted to arrest the negroes after they had fired at D. P. Purdell. After shooting the marshal, they are said to have left the freight train and fled to the woods, but it is believed they probably boarded some later train passing through Wakefield.

The marshal was shot in the abdomen and was rushed to a Richmond hospital for an operation.

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Crime — 1921.

West Virginia

HUNTINGTON W VA ADVERT'R
FEBRUARY 2, 1921

Will Conner, a negro, got five days in jail, for having run from Patrolman Andy Baker, who arrested him for loitering in a railroad station. The officer had overtaken Conner after a short chase.

WHEELING W VA REGISTER
MARCH 31, 1921

Six Negro Women Taken To Prison

Six negro women arrived at the state prison yesterday from the nation's capital to serve sentences. One of the women will serve twenty years, having been convicted of murder. The other five will serve short terms.

The arrival of the federal prisoners brings the female population of the prison to the highest mark shown in many months.

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Wisconsin.

Crime – 1921

MADISON, WIS. JOURNAL
MARCH 2, 1921

COLORED WOMAN IS TAKEN TO PRISON

Marguerite Burrington, colored, who fleeced dozens of men desirous of committing matrimony by inducing them to send her money after she had corresponded with them and had sent them, as her photograph, a picture of a beautiful white girl, left for the West Virginia penitentiary at Moundsville this noon in company with Marshal Frank P. O'Connor, to serve a three-year term for using the mails to defraud. The woman has been in the Dane county jail for several months, pending disposition of her case. Her home is at Romona, near Monroe.

MILWAUKEE WIS JOURNAL
APRIL 19, 1921

Negro Jail Plotter Is Given 3 Years

Raymond Roberts, negro, 257 Eighth-st, who attempted a jail delivery here by sawing three steel bars of his cell last week, and who confessed having bribed his way out of the Chicago bridewell with $250 given to a guard, was sentenced to three years in the house of correction Tuesday by Judge Backus in municipal court. He was charged with altering the serial number on an automobile motor. He tried to shoot Detective English, but was disarmed and knocked down by Detective Moran.

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Except: Jim Crow Car Laws
Segregation
Suffrage.

See also: Labor Discrimination
Labor, Agricutture
Education; Condition of Common Schools.

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